EARTH FIRST!

LITHA EDITION

June 21, 1987 Vol. VII, No. VI

THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL TWO DOLLARS

EF! Protests MAXXAM Redwood Logging from California to New York City

by Mokai

EF! demo at Pacific Lumber log deck. Photo by David Cross.

The large crowd swarms around the gate to the log deck. They completely occupy the road, blocking what is probably the world's major transport route for old growth Redwood. The Humboldt County sheriffs are deployed inside the gate. Suddenly three women leap the barrier, carrying a banner, and head toward the stack of huge logs. The sheriffs sprint to intercept them before the banner can be read. The protesters and police reach the logs at the same time. The cops hit in a flying wedge. Karen Pickett, Berkeley eco-activist, is straight-armed face first against the logs. Sinkyone Warrior Agnes Mansfield is forced to her knees as the sheriff twists her arm behind her back, dislocating her shoulder. Aster Phillipa, Arcata Earth First! coordinator, squirms in her captor's grip, struggling to spread the banner until a cop pins it under his boot. Other women take advantage of the confusion to climb to the top of the stack. The women dance from log to log, garlands in their hair, as cops pursue them Later, Sally Bell attempts to leaflet the deputies on "their" side of the fence. She is thrown to the ground. A cop twists her arm behind her back, and steps on her back. Viewing these women violated, so tiny among the massive boles of the ancient, now horizontal forest, I wonder about the petty men who call us terrorists.

This action is part of the simple plan of a determined group — to stop the cutting of all old growth, and alert the world to the old growth issue through the controversy surrounding the liquidation by Pacific Lumber (PL) of 40,000 acres of old growth Coast Redwood, almost 40% of that remaining in the world. At the heart of these forests is an estimated 6000 acres of virgin Redwoods, including one 2800-acre grove spanning a headwaters. These remote, roadless Redwood islands are under attack from a high-finance pirate band called MAXXAM. After illegally taking over PL, MAXXAM, with the complicity of the California Department of Forestry (CDF), embarked on a military-like cutting frenzy. Clearcuts of virgin groves, and removal of all old growth remaining on lands recently selectively cut, are the tactics. This, coupled with deforestation of PL's vast second growth holdings, could punch a hole in the fog belt between Humboldt Redwood Park and Redwoods National Park big enough to endanger all protected Redwood habitat. It could also choke with sediment the mouth of the Eel, already California's most sediment-laden river.

We began planning months ago, contacting EF! groups in New York, Houston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, for a coordinated day of direct action. We networked throughout our region. Darryl Cherney and Greg King cultivated media contacts they had gained on our previous demos in San Francisco at PL headquarters and at a local mill.

Research of Timber Harvest files and aerial photos enabled us to explore and map the most sensitive areas. In April we published a 12-page tabloid, exposing CDF's role in the destruction of the world's largest unprotected redwood habitat. Our work in alerting the public to comment on Timber Harvest Plans (THPs) had already caused major revisions and withdrawal of illegal plans — plans like those routinely approved at the beginning of the take-over. As PL scrambled to make their THPs lawsuit proof, cutting continued feverishly on approved plans.

We decided to take a large group to PL's largest old growth log deck and blockade their main haul route. To give the action staying power, we planned a tree occupation in one of the active plans, dubbed "All Species' Creek." After networking with the Nomadic Action Group, we were in the woods on Sunday, May 17.

Five tree sitters were ready. To set the platforms required spur climbers. Our team was comprised of Darryl Sukovitzen, tree surgeon, of the Dubrova grove action in Sonoma County; an Oregon EF!er; and myself. At the site, Darryl swarmed up a large tree near a giant. I had only gained 30 feet on the spongy, spur-defying bark of my tree when the sound of a rig arriving under us startled me. Two workers had discovered us, scattering our ground crew. Conferring with the two tree sitters below, we decided I should back

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The Strawberry Liberation Front

by Homo Fragaria

Andy Caffrey endorsing the pulling-up of strawberry plants. Photo by David Cross.

On April 24, in Brentwood, California, a small town in the eastern Contra Costa County agricultural area of the Sacramento River delta, the Oakland firm Advanced Genetic Sciences (AGS) sprayed into the open environment millions of microbes which had been produced in laboratories by alteration of their genetic structure. The microbes' natural predecessors, *Pseudomonas syringae* and *P. florescens*, encourage the formation of frost on plants. Professor Stephen Lindow of UC Berkeley had developed a technique for removing a protein from the microbe's DNA, which removal inhibited its ability to encourage the frost formation until temperatures were well below freezing, perhaps as low as 23 degrees F. He had leased his patent to AGS for lab and field testing and eventual marketing. The field test would be on 2400 strawberry plants.

Allegedly, AGS expects to earn profits from Frostban, or ice-minus, as it is commonly known, of $300 million a year. Three and a half years of testing included spraying trees on the roof of the building housing their offices. For this they were fined by the EPA, which had not granted permission for such tests. Originally set at $20,000, the fine was later lowered to $13,000 — a light slap on the wrist.

Before choosing Brentwood, AGS had tried to conduct their open-air experiment at three other California locations, only to be stopped by local opposition. However, before radical intervention, the average inhabitant of sleepy, rural Brentwood was largely unaware of the issue, although a few farmers who had

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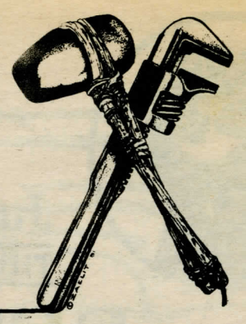
EARTH FIRST!



NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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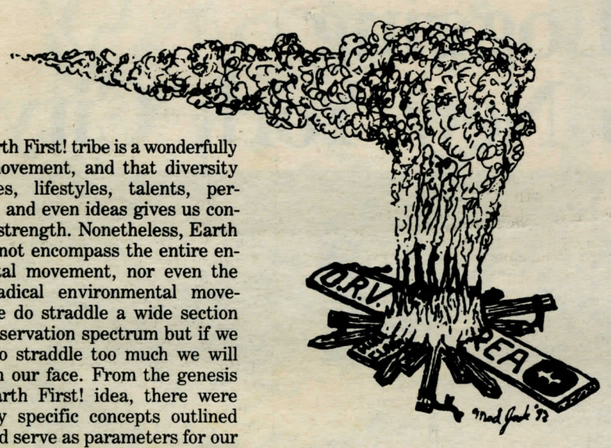
Around the Campfire



Our Earth First! tribe is a wonderfully diverse movement, and that diversity in abilities, lifestyles, talents, personalities, and even ideas gives us considerable strength. Nonetheless, Earth First! cannot encompass the entire environmental movement, nor even the entire "radical environmental movement." We do straddle a wide section of the conservation spectrum but if we attempt to straddle too much we will fall flat on our face. From the genesis of the Earth First! idea, there were some very specific concepts outlined that should serve as parameters for our particular group. I think there remains a strong general consensus on these things that define us as "Earth First!," although I also see some definite attempts to change, "sanitize" or "mellow-out" the Earth First! image and style.

In my mind, at least, the following are some of the things that define Earth First!: 1) putting the Earth first in all decisions, even ahead of human welfare if necessary (Earth First!); 2) a lack of desire to gain credibility or "legitimacy" with the gang of thugs running human civilization (Resist Much, Obey Little); 3) a definite questioning of and even antipathy to "progress" and technology (Back to the Pleistocene); 4) a refusal to accept "rationality" as the only way of thinking (Dream Back the Bison, Sing Back the Swan); 5) a recognition that there are far too many human beings on Earth (Malthus Was Right); 6) an effort to go beyond the tired, worn-out dogmas of the left, right, and middle-of-the-road (Subvert the Dominant Paradigm) (and, no, capitalists are not the only problem); 7) an unwillingness to set any ethnic, class, or political group of humans on a pedestal and make them immune from questioning; 8) an enthusiastic embracing of the philosophy of biocentrism or deep ecology (inherent value of all life forms); 9) a refusal to use human beings as the measure by which to value others; 10) a realization that wilderness is the real world (American Wilderness, Love It or Leave It Alone); 11) a willingness to let our actions set the finer points of our philosophy, and recognition that indeed we must act; 12) an acknowledgement that we must change our personal lifestyles to those more harmonious with natural diversity (Eschew Surplusage); and 13) an acceptance of monkeywrenching as a legitimate tool for the preservation of natural diversity for use by some people even though EF! as a group and many individuals in EF! may not engage in it, and an unwillingness to condemn the general concept of monkeywrenching (Hayduke Lives).

Although I am only one voice within Earth First! (albeit a rather loud one), and while I accept the grassroots evolution of the group even though it may lead in directions I would not choose, my feeling is that if someone or some local group cannot accept these kinds of parameters, then they are probably in the wrong bunch and ought to join some other outfit or start their own. There need not be any bad feeling involved in this — EF! can still work with other groups with whom we share some, but not all, goals, ideas and styles. The Cathedral Forest Action Group is a good example of this.

I write this because I apprehend that some folks are getting involved with Earth First! because it's the "in" group right now, because it's easy to gain a high media profile if you've got the EF! name, and because it's fun; but then they want to change our "bad" image (which is precisely the reason we're "in," fun and get media attention). Don't try to change us. Let us be Earth First!. Accept that.

* * * *

Sometimes you just can't win. This spring I received an anonymous letter (no return address) from some irresponsible bozo who doesn't like dogs and who threatened to do something about it at the '87 Round River Rendezvous. Now, I'm not one of the leading dog lovers on the planet, myself, but I accept that there are many EF!ers who really *love* these devolved canids (and I must admit there are some nice pups in our tribe), and I was upset that there would be an EF!er socially callous enough to threaten to poison the hounds of other EF!ers with ground glass or fishhooks embedded in a tasty treat. I, unfortunately, had no return address to write this wayward soul and suggest that s/he not carry out her/his threatened plan, or better yet that we didn't need someone like her/him at the RRR, period.

Now, I could have tossed the letter, in order to avoid a public controversy, but then I would have been culpable if someone's pooch got a fishhook snack. So, I gave the letter to the RRR committee with the recommendation that people be warned about the dog-hating fiend loose in our midst. The RRR committee considered the loathsome letter and decided to include it in their article in the Beltane issue. Which they did. And which caused an outpouring (half-a-dozen) of letters *accusing ME of advocating the feeding of fishhook-laced burgers to puppydogs!* (There were also a couple of thoughtful letters taking angry issue with the nut but not blaming any of us for advocating it as well.)

Back off, friends, and back off real fast. Just because something is printed here doesn't mean your editors endorse it. Would you have preferred not to know about this character's plans so you couldn't prepare for it? Or do you want some Big Daddy to take care of everything and not trouble everyone else with the problem? We're a grassroots group. Everyone in EF! needs to be aware of things like the dog-hater letter because it's all of you who need to deal with the problem.

Now, I will apologize because there was not a stronger disclaimer in the RRR article. The committee wrote the article, trying to beat a deadline; it got here late, and John and I really had no time to read it over and suggest that a stronger condemnation be inserted. Nonetheless, we should have done that in order to better discourage the caniphobe creep and to make it clear to the more excitable dog owners out there that none of us were advocating hurting your pet.

So — to all of you: Remember that you are in a social group of people whom you supposedly like and wish to associate with. That requires some friendly give and take. It demands understanding, it calls for tolerance. It requires an ability to put yourself in the other person's place and consider their point of view. For example: if you've got a dog, remember that others may not love it as much as you do; that if it is running loose, it might be behaving in an obnoxious manner. Restrain it. Keep it under control. Give both your dog and your fellow EF!ers some basic respect. Now, if you don't like dogs, recognize that some other EF!ers do. If a dog is unleashed or unrestrained or otherwise making a scene, find the owners, talk to them. If that doesn't work, take it to the group. That's what society is for. My understanding from the RRR Committee is that if anyone's dog is a pain in the ass to anyone at the RRR, the dog and owner will be asked to leave. I would also hate to think what might happen to anyone found feeding ground glass to a pooch, even an obnoxious one, at the RRR.

* * *

Ed Grumbine's report in our last issue on Coca Cola in Belize was a landmark article. We hear that it is making the rounds in Belize and receiving good reviews. We follow up on it this issue with an important piece from another Central American traveler — this time Barbara Dugelby reporting on the efforts of the Kuna Indians of Panama to establish and manage their own rainforest preserve. All does not have to be bad news from the tropics. As Barb points out, this could establish an exciting and effective precedent for the preservation of both indigenous peoples and natural diversity.

I am particularly proud of all the EF!ers who were involved in the nationwide demonstrations against the MAXXAM takeover of Pacific Lumber Company and the resultant chainsaw blitzkreig on the largest holding of old-growth Redwood in the world. Demonstrations were held in northern California, Marin County, Los Angeles, Houston, Washington, DC, and New York City. Wow! Lots for all EF! groups to learn from this. A tip of the hat to the fine organizers in Humboldt and Mendocino counties. Good job.

Other major campaigns are continuing as well. Arrests have occurred since our last issue in Oregon's Kalmiopsis, and at the California Dept. of Fish & Game headquarters in Sacramento regarding the proposed Mountain Lion slaughter. And, if anyone's wondering why we're so concerned about a few uranium mines in the vast Grand Canyon region, Dan Dagget has the answer for you. His carefully researched map of the Canyon graphically shows the real threat. Dan's research, by the way, was funded by the EF! Journal Research Fund. Contributions to it can be made through the EF! Foundation. See the ad in this issue. We're pleased to publish the EF! California Deserts Wilderness National Park proposal in this issue, which should establish some vision in the debate over the arid lands. Write a letter on this one!

Finally, you might want to note some changes on our masthead. The excellent maps — which are replacing some chicken scratches for which I was responsible — are by professional cartographer and graphic artist Helen Wilson here in Tucson. You've been enjoying her splendid drawings of critters for several years. Now her maps will add a new level of understanding to many of our articles. Tucson EF! activist Kris Taylor (soon to be Sommerville) has stepped into the shoes of Dixie Dalton as our business manager and is quickly taking

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June 21, 1987
Vol. VII, No. VI

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is published by Ned Ludd Publications and is an independently owned newspaper within the broad Earth First! movement. It is not the "official newsletter" of the Earth First! movement. Entire contents are copyrighted 1987, but we are pleased to allow reprinting if credit is given, except for those articles specifically copyrighted by the author. Art and photographs are copyrighted by the individual artist or photographer and permission to use must be received from them. *Earth First!* is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this newspaper, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

Contributions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Art or photographs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. Due to our tight budget, no payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

All material should be sent to Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

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Contributing Photographers: David Cross, Roger Featherstone, George Wuerthner, Howie Wolke, Doug Peacock, Scott Smith.

Mailing: Tucson Earth First! Group

ADDRESSES

POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703 (602) 622-1371: Letters to the Editor, Manuscripts, Art, Photographs, etc. for *Earth First!*; Subscriptions, Changes of Address, Inquiries; Merchandise Orders; Clippings; General Correspondence.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirement. Letters should be typed or carefully printed and double-spaced, using only one side of a sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate if you want your name and location to appear or if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Editor,

I wish to respond to George Wuerthner's article on Alaskan Natives: It would be hard to fault his research or his concern for the environment, both of which are admirable. He has clearly made a lifetime commitment to ecology. Yet his tone is that of someone examining a bug on the end of a needle, scientific to the nth degree and lacking in compassion for that which he examines. He displays little or no background in the history, culture, or legal aspects of Indian issues and at times has a barely disguised antagonism toward native peoples.

His main thrust is that the earth should be protected from people who are destroying it, no matter who they are. No one should argue with this, but what Wuerthner doesn't seem to grasp is the horribly tangled and convoluted legal and cultural quagmires that have put native peoples in a Catch-22 position with the government. Most of them would not have dreamed, in the context of their original culture, of attacking the earth by clearcutting river slopes; but they are now forced to survive in a different context, one brought about by the European culture, and they are trying to survive by adapting and imitating the ways of their conquerors. As for Indians and other native groups having been romanticized by environmentalists as the "the first ecologists," I believe the fault of that lies with the perceivers, not the perceived.

What Wuerthner's article misses is an overview of society. Native peoples, just like everyone else, are caught up in the vicious cycles of capitalism which are predicated on the exploitation of and competition for resources. Unfortunately the trees and wolves cannot unite; the earth is hostage to humans. Therefore, humans, all of us, must develop a global cooperative economy and global, strictly enforced environmental protection laws.

There is an underlying racist tone to Wuerthner's writing. He refers often to welfare benefits and development subsidies received by Alaskan Natives as though the federal government was simply pitying these poor people and giving them money. This is hardly the case. The Alaskan Natives, like other native peoples, gave up vast land and mineral resources — and the context of their entire culture — in *exchange* for paltry, short-term benefits. When Wuerthner makes moral judgments, as he does constantly, about things other than the environment, he shows his bias and undermines his article. Wuerthner says the Alaskan Native population may be higher now than at the time of contact; this is certainly an arguable point, at best. His comment about Indians being given money by the government (again, they were not ever *given* something with no strings attached) to go shopping in Fairbanks smacks of the "niggers on welfare driving Cadillacs" comment we used to hear so much. He implies that Pribilof Islanders received $190,000 per person, but the time span or the fact that this was to be used for overall tribal economic development isn't explained, creating a misleading picture of money being squandered.

By attacking a racial group — rather than examining the economic system we are all a part of, which is predicated on ruthless competition for resources and a philosophy of man-against-nature — Wuerthner's article lacks balance. Since it is my racial group he's attacking, I am on guard and recognize both in his tone and his arguments the kinds of racist statements that are usually made in other contexts, but are made here in defense of ecology — an issue we should be on the same side of.

Whatever depredations indigenous people have fallen prey to — not just here but in Africa, South America, Australia — as they become pawns in the power plays of federal governments and huge corporations, we should remember that originally native peoples everywhere, including Europeans, lived in harmony with nature. All of the old religions revolved around a reverence for all life and a respect for our place in the overall scheme of things. Ancient legends say that the sin of hubris, pride, has time and again brought the downfall of human beings. Each time we think we can dominate all life, we crash. Each time we come back from the brink of extinction a little wiser. We are all only human. Why should it surprise anyone that native peoples clearcut anymore than that anyone else does? Why should native peoples be held to a higher standard?

To divide people along racial, ethnic, or sexual lines is dangerous. To do so on behalf of ecology is doubly dangerous; for to the elliptical human mind, to do something bad on behalf of something good, makes the bad thing ok. Anyone who drives a car, talks on the phone, or mails a letter to be carried by trucks and planes, is part of a system of exploitation of the earth. None of us are exempt — especially in this country, where we all use more than our share — from the charge of exploitation of the earth's resources. The ecology movement will not succeed as long as it remains a movement of primarily white, middle and upper-middle class, college educated, economically and socially privileged people.

Our ethical behavior should not be directed toward the land exclusively, nor toward humans exclusively, but should join both together in community. In the Indian view of things, Gitche Manitou was everything beyond the earth, was the sky, the Great Mystery, the Spirit or "breath" of life. Earth and its people, which included all humans, animals, and plants collectively as "people," were everything that was manifest, visible, physical. The job of mankind, being part of both matter and spirit, was to join Gitche Manitou and Mother Earth together, to join the spiritual or ideal with the material or real. It still is our job and it won't happen until the consciousness of everyone is raised. A land ethic is one step in that process and it will evolve in the mind of a thinking community — slowly, together.

Although I admire Wuerthner's dedication and well-researched facts he added to the fund of environmental knowledge, I object on principle to attacks on select racial groups, especially Alaskan Natives who have been more often prey than predator in their reluctant eat-or-be-eaten chess game with the government and the corporations.

—Lewis P. Johnson.

Dear Dave:

It seems timely to indicate by a letter in *Earth First!* why the Virginia Chapter of Sierra Club has declined to endorse a "Shenandoah Wilderness" proposal as currently presented. I am knowledgeable of the area, living within 20 miles of it and having wandered in it many times.

It would be great to gain a 65,000 acre Wilderness in the Appalachian Mountains. There are, however, serious questions about the character of this proposal as initially and currently presented.

The proposal was initially advanced on the premise that long-existing roads therein had been so severely damaged by a 100-year flood in western Virginia in November 1985 that the US Forest Service would be obliged to abandon them, thereby making the area roadless and offering a potential Wilderness of approximately 65,000 acres. As it turned out, the damage was spotty and mostly limited to separate stretches of 50-300 feet, plus two or three bridges being washed out. Within a few months, the Forest Service had made temporary repairs and restored most of the roads to service passable by pickup truck. Where the bridges were out, it was practical to ford the North River during the low water of summer and early fall.

Since Fiscal Year 1987 Congressional appropriations became available, the FS has largely completed restoring the roads to their normal condition, i.e., safe and convenient for passage by ordinary passenger cars; though work on the bridges has not been completed. The roads will NOT be abandoned by the Forest Service.

Exclusive of the roads which would be the boundary of the proposed Shenandoah Wilderness, there are 32 miles of good gravel or dirt roads open to the public year-around within the proposed boundary. These roads have been in service for many years and are popular with a wide variety of users, including bird watchers, backpackers, scientists, and hunters. This is a comprehensive system of roads. While most of the mileage is at low elevations, one road ascends from the North River to the highest point in the area (Reddish Knob, elevation 4397 feet).

To acknowledge the existence and use of these roads while urging their closing would be one thing. To imply that these

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Please send any newspaper clippings mentioning Earth First! or dealing with subjects of interests to us at POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703. Clippings about monkeywrenching of any kind would also be appreciated. Thank you!

The Post Office does not forward Third Class Mail but they do charge us 30 cents apiece to to send us your change of address. Please send us your change of address promptly so you do not miss an issue of *Earth First!* and we do not have to pay the Post Office to receive it. Some people using clever aliases are not receiving their copies of *Earth First!*. Be sure to notify your postperson that "Attila the Hun" or "The Animal" receives mail at your address.

SCHEDULE

***Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal* is published 8 times a year on the old pagan European nature holidays: Samhain (November 1), Yule (December 21 or 22), Brigid (February 2), Eostar (March 21 or 22), Beltane (May 1), Litha (June 21 or 22), Lughnasadh (August 1), and Mabon (September 21 or 22). Deadlines for articles are three weeks before the cover date: October 10, December 1, January 10, March 1, April 10, June 1, July 10, and September 1. The newspaper is mailed Third Class on the cover date. First Class delivery is available for $10 extra a year. Surface delivery outside the USA is available for $25; airmail delivery overseas is available for $40 a year.**

Campfire . . .

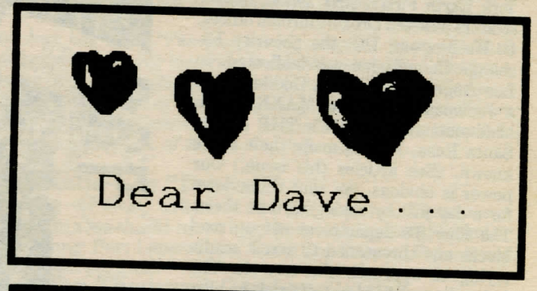
charge. Already John and I are breathing sighs of relief as we're freed up to attack various projects we've had to ignore due to lack of time. (I might even get our book **The Big Outside** done now.) The rumors that Dixie has taken up with Jack Burns again and run off to Australia are untrue. And last but certainly not least, Charles Conner and Lainie Levick, also Tucson EF!ers, are taking over the filling of orders for us. Welcome aboard, friends, and thank you for your fine work in support of this endeavor.

Now, I've got to wrap this up so I can pack for a float trip on the San Juan River with John Seed and the EF! Foundation Board. See you at the RRR!

— *Dave Foreman*

You decide . . . Will he stay or will he go?

Our little, fat, Coors-swilling redneck and his barnyard language offend some — so it's up to you to decide whether he should remain as our "Letters" mascot or whether the "Letters" column should be sanitized with one of these other logos and titles. For every $10 you contribute to the Earth First! Foundation's Journal Research Fund (which pays for in-depth articles here), you receive one vote for the "Letters" logo of your choice. Send your votes (and your $!) today to the Earth First! Foundation, POB 50681, Tucson, AZ 85703.



Redwoods . . .

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down, and help them set up in the trees which the other spur climbers were climbing. As I coiled my rope, Darryl kept the loggers slack-jawed with an amazing aerial traverse from his tree to the giganto.

Both spur climbers fixed girth hitches with webbing, set climbing ropes, and rappelled down. The sitters began their ascents. I hurriedly tied gear to Larry Evans' platform and attached it to the rope. Darryl was already in another tree. Unfortunately, everyone else was hiding. I went looking for tree sitters. When I found them, up the hill, we could see PL security arriving below. We began hauling equipment out of the area, evading security as they combed the woods. (EF! attitude: don't stop when they yell "halt" unless they are armed cops in full line of sight.)

I watched through binos. The climbers were like little nodules on the sides of the trees, giving perspective to the trees' immense size. Darryl stood in his spurs 150 feet off the ground, PL security at the tree's base. Larry was up at 120 feet, in his stirrups and harness attached to the rope with climbing aids. PL security had intercepted his platform. Kurt Newman had raised his platform 60 feet up his tree. As the day passed, they developed a "good" protester, "bad" protester dynamic with the the loggers below. Kurt goaded the loggers into cutting them down. Larry talked no crap forestry, and impressed them with his endurance. Darryl told off-color jokes.

The sheriffs arrived and split up in teams, returning later with a ground person and gear. They unfurled the 30-foot "Save the redwoods" banner on the road. The graphic banner "Stop MAXXAM," replete with blood-spattered skull and crossbones, had them silent and pensive.

The arrival of a police blazer on the other side of my bush forced my retreat, but I returned later. Larry was coming down. After a Herculian effort, the cold was proving too much. He surrendered. A generator roared and the forest was illuminated by floodlights. A spotlight hit Darryl's tree. He was gone! During the diversion, he had jammed it into the canopy. He made a bosen's chair from his rope, and persevered until midnight, when the cold forced him down too.

Kurt was warm in his down, but the loggers were building a road to his tree. They were ready to bring in a crane. As Kurt parlayed with the sheriff to gain time, the loggers shot at him with slingshots.

At dawn a spur climber was sent up. Setting up a banner would involve preventing this dude from interfering. Kurt's rock climbers' safety ethic prevailed; he surrendered. A few hours later, 150 people gathered in a car caravan. As we approached the log deck, the absence of log trucks struck us. The deck was shut down! In an effort to prevent a photo of a blockaded, bannered log truck, they stopped work for the day . . . . Bewildered workers were turned away by cops.

A festive atmosphere prevailed. EF!ers reveled in marimba music, and spoke with non EF! locals with eyes full of awe at our having stopped the trucks.

It was a successful action: 13 local arrests, five more in Mill Valley, where 800 pounds of tree stumps were cemented in front of PL's sales office door. In New York Earth First!'s first action, demonstrators picketed Drexel-Burnum offices. In Washington, DC, the Security Exchange Commission was leafletted. In Los Angeles, the Earth Goddess took a redwood sapling to MAXXAM/PL headquarters. At CDF's THP mill in Santa Rosa, EF!ers made their views known. (See articles this issue.) Our power is obvious. We shut them down for a day just by saying we'd be there. The Sheriff's department set up road blocks and threatened to arrest media trying to approach the tree-sit. The judge disqualified himself from the blockaders' trial, and we gained national news with a report on the "Today Show."

Our issue will be heard. As I left All Species' Grove a few nights later, I heard a male Spotted Owl call and a female respond. I wonder, will it be in time?

Mokai is a legendary northern California forest defender.

Fireman prepares to remove the Marin County banner. Photo by Steve Ringman of the San Francisco Chronicle.

EF! Texas demo outside Hurtwitz' Houston headquarters. Photo by Sedge Simmons.

EF! in New York City takes the Pacific Lumber battle to Wall Street. The first EF! demo in New York City! Photo by Melinda Billings.

LOS ANGELES

by Peter Bralver

On May 18 — the day of the multi-city coordinated Humboldt action — LA Earth First!ers stood in front of the MCO offices (Maxxam-Pacific Lumber) holding banners to protest the destruction of the North Coast forests. Denise Conway-Mucha, dressed as Mother Earth in winding vines over her dress, tried to carry a baby Sequoia Redwood in a bucket into the offices of those now owning the North Coast clearcutting machine. She was prevented, however, and to push an arrest would have been fruitless with no media recording our lonely vigil.

TEXAS

by Jean Crawford

The Texas action against Charles Hurwitz and Maxxam took place far from the mist-wreathed redwoods on the Northwest Coast. Our action was in hot, smoggy Houston surrounded by concrete buildings — so we took the forest with us, in the form of cardboard redwoods and three living cedars. Our eco-defending trees bore signs and our "forest" was accompanied by 15 Earth First!ers. They included an outraged lumberjack, Bob Gartner, who strode up and down the sidewalk shouting that Hurwitz was destroying America! We planted ourselves in front of MCO Plaza and commenced telling Houston that this was home for an ecocidal vampire.

Traffic was thick so the passers-by got a good look at us. Some folk were amused, some were angry, but many were supportive. Suits and secretaries descended from the MCO building to gawk at and talk with us. We explained our objection to ancient trees being sacrificed to Hurwitz' greed.

Three spokespeople, Lisa Henderson, Sedge Simons and myself tried to deliver a message to the Vampire's office. The armed guards wouldn't let us in the building; they said Mr. Hurwitz didn't want to see us!

After our attempt at "civilized" communication failed, the trees held a tribunal. Hurwitz was represented by a dummy labeled "Charles Hurwitz — Corporate Vampire." He was found guilty of Crimes against Nature. The trees were certain that he believed in the Golden Rule, so they did to him what he was doing to them — they chopped him down! We finished by chanting at the building, "Charles Hurwitz, you can't hide./We charge you with arborcide."

NEW YORK CITY

by Matt Meyers

On May 18, the New York City chapter of Earth First! became reality. The issue that brought us together was the clearcutting of California old growth Coast Redwoods by Maxxam Corporation. Together with Earth First!ers in six other locations — Humboldt County, Mill Valley, Santa Rosa, and Los Angeles, California; Houston; and Washington, DC — we joined in a national day of protest against Maxxam's ecocide of the redwood forests which Maxxam grabbed from the Pacific Lumber Company two years ago.

NYCEF! protested on Park and Madison Avenues. For the first time in NYC politics, redwood trees carried signs on behalf of their sisters and brothers in California. We were also dressed as owls and other non-human species facing extinction due to the clearcutting of their habitat.

Two weeks prior to our demonstration at their headquarters, Maxxam left town, moving to their "parent" headquarters in Los Angeles. We celebrated our City ridding itself of Maxxam, by marching over to an office of Drexel, Burnham, Lambert — the investment banking firm who issued the junk bonds that allowed Maxxam to take over Pacific Lumber. Future deep ecology picket lines are planned for Drexel's main offices on Wall Street. The demo brought together sisters and brothers from Greenpeace, The Greens, Rainforest Action Network, Big Mountain Support Committee, as well as Long Island and NYC Earth First!

Guided by the slogan "Wall Street Out of the Wilderness," we Earth First!ers in New York City have finally come together and found a mission.

Tactical Thoughts on the MAXXAM Protests

by Socratrees

One of our primary goals has been to publicize the atrocities being committed against California's last remaining virgin redwood wilderness. Our action was publicized on every major network in the state, the "Today Show," the *San Francisco Chronicle, LA Times* and countless others. The *Houston Post* ran a front page story, which revealed previous battles that Hurwitz has had with celebrities like Frank Sinatra, and his connection with ex-prez Gerry Ford. A special howl of thanks goes to Texas Earth First! for exposing this environmental criminal in his home town, and to all in solidarity with us that day.

We've been asked to delineate things we did right and wrong so that others may learn from what we did. Here are a few items:

RIGHT: We conveyed the universality of our issue to folks around the country, which enabled us to act in seven locations. Perhaps others can find branch offices in various cities of corporations harming the environment and again hold a nationwide event.

WRONG: The tree-climbers saw that the loggers had left equipment behind but took no precautions to prepare for their return. The climbers spread their own equipment out so carelessly that a quick departure was not feasible. Keep your gear together. Also, the climbers did not take the banners, water, or warm clothes with them on the initial climb. Had they done so, the action might have been more sustainable.

RIGHT: The date of our event was well-chosen. It was the first Monday after finals at Humboldt State University, from which came many of the participants. At an earlier date, students would have been studying. At a later date, many would have left for home.

WRONG: We underestimated our adversary. Louisiana-Pacific withheld their information on the tree-spiking injury at the Cloverdale mill for a full week so that it was publicized just before the action, adding an enormous strain to our overworked psyches. On the 15th, I came to our office to do last minute media work, but our phones were ringing non-stop with calls from media from all over the US wanting comments on the spiking. Mike Roselle was en route to Humboldt County and could not be reached for comment. So we handled the flack carefully, focusing attention on LP's safety hazards and our written group non-property destruction policy. Louisiana-Pacific and Pacific Lumber are part of a coalition of timber beasts who shamelessly call themselves WE CARE. Collusion to sabotage our event is likely. However, the increased publicity of the spiking simply brought more media to our rally.

RIGHT: We used affinity groups. An action like this is so complex that no one person could coordinate it all. Affinity groups included media contacts, video crew, reconnaissance scouts, tree climbers, jail support crew, telephone crew, drivers to pick-up forest action crew, lawyers, musicians, radio phone operators (we rented 2-way radios), fund raisers, blockaders, fence jumpers, base camp maintainers, guides to woods action for supplies and media, rally coordinators, and more. We put this all together in two weeks, not counting the months of scouting and mapping.

WRONG: We thought our choice of a log deck site was a secret, but PL had made preparations at the very log deck we had chosen. They knew. In the future, if secrecy is necessary, we may do tree actions without a nation-wide action.

RIGHT: We stationed people at the phones during our action, to keep track of where people were going to jail and to help get them out. Follow arrestees to the jail. Solidarity in this is a moral obligation to your brothers and sisters.

WRONG: After a loggers' pick-up plowed through our crowd (one fellow was knocked down but not injured) many participants began yelling at the police. Although the cops' lack of action was despicable, violent behavior on our part could have led to an uglier situation.

COMMUNICATE: When you have as many people as we had working on this, with many living far apart, communication can be a problem. Yet it is probably the most essential element of any action. If you don't know who is in jail, who has called what press, etc., and if you think that someone else is doing it so you needn't bother, that is a relinquishment of responsibility. A few calls every day help.

We opened with a circle. Have Native Americans present for prayer ceremonies. Close with a circle. This is in some way spiritual insurance that what you are about to do and have done is for the benefit of all.

Though we made many mistakes, our action was overall a huge success. We closed MAXXAM operations in three locations. We finished with a positive attitude, a party, and this silly notion that we will do this again soon!

Agnes Mansfield and Aster Phillipa captured among the massive boles of the ancient, now-horizontal forests. Photo by Carl Dalton.

Washington EF! Update

by Mike Jakubal

There it was, amongst the usual expletives and phone numbers on the wall above the commode in Joe's Tavern, two words and an exclamation point, "Earth First!." The bar had been christened. EF! had arrived in Wenatchee!

It arrived with a howl, as 22 ecoheads marched on the Wenatchee National Forest HQ on May 28 to express support for Wenatchee wilderness and protest Forest Service schemes to destroy the same. With signs a-wavin', our spirited assemblage belted out songs of revolt (or at least revolting songs). "We don't believe you anymore" — the chorus to Budworm's latest protest song — rang against the building as curious Freds hovered about in the lobby. Soon, Paul Hart, Freddie mouthpiece, nervously approached the group with his noteboard and fielded questions and filled pages with our "concerns." No amount of Freddie platitudes, though, could hide the facts: 1700 miles of new roads on the Wenatchee, more grazing, huge ORV increase, destruction of habitat necessary for successful reintroduction of Gray Wolves and Grizzly Bears, further species extirpation, and more and bigger clearcuts and deficits. When asked about the number of timber staff compared to the one full-time wildlife staffer, Hart waffled:

FS: "Well, I'm not really sure."
EF!: "Just roughly . . . 10? 15?"
FS: "Well . . . more like 70 or 100."

The need for action was clear. With our List of Demands and Statement of Intentions presented and the media scurrying off with their story, we left the bureaufats and proceeded to a local establishment more conducive to celebration . . . for this had been the largest environmental protest in Wenatchee history!

The Wenatchee National Forest (WNF) contains 600,000 acres of pristine forest open to the greedrapers. The WNF contains Grizzlies and, on occasion, Wolves and Moose; and may be home to a far higher than expected concentration of Spotted Owls. Presently there are 24 ongoing or upcoming timber sales with confirmed Spotted Owl nests either near or within sale boundaries. Wolves and Moose are not even considered in any WNF planning and Griz is just now receiving basic acknowledgement in the form of grossly underfunded studies.

Grizzlies and wolves will be a prime focus for Earth First! actions on the Wenatchee and the North Cascades as a whole. Perhaps a dozen Grizzlies live in North Cascades National Park and the implications for the adjacent Wenatchee, Okanogan and Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forests are clear: "managing" for Grizzlies and wolves will mean complete shut-down of logging in presently untrammeled areas and rehabilitation of damaged land. We will conduct a multi-faceted campaign to bring these issues into the streets, newspapers, TV and, at times, courtrooms and jails. Anyone with pertinent info on Griz and Gray Wolf, ideas on strategy, or energy to commit to this struggle, contact us!

The Washington EF! movement is committed to decentralized, autonomous affinity group-based action, feeling that this allows us the greatest flexibility and response-ability and best encourages diversity of thought and action. Seattle, Olympia, and Bellingham (Shuksan EF!) have active groups that will soon be joined by the new groups in Wenatchee and the Okanogan Highlands to work on the following issues and more:

BLACK BEARS: An important component in the Black Bear's spring diet is the cambium of young trees, which they obtain by clawing through the bark. To the timber industry, this is known as "bear damage" and provides an excuse to kill 1600 bears each year, even though no accurate bear population figures exist. This slaughter is carried out through an "unholy alliance" between the Forest Service, Washington Department of Natural Resources, the State Department of Game (DOG), and a timber industry lobbying group — the Washington Forest Protection Association (WFPA). When corporate landowners find damage, they inform DOG and request a hunt. On National Forests — public land! — WFPA makes inspections and recommendations for the bear hunt. This quagmire of corporate-State-Federal collusion was the target of simultaneous EF! demos in Olympia, Seattle (Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF HQ), and Darrington on May 19. Seattle and Olympia both drew 20 protesters. Seattle gained good media coverage and a lively confrontation with the Baker-Snoqualmie (BS) spokes-ass, who demonstrated amazing flexibility by repeatedly putting his foot in his mouth. Shuksan EF! met the Ranger of the Darrington District of the BS National Forest with songs and lectures on bears and ecology. Follow-ups to these protests are in the works.

OLD GROWTH: Shuksan EF! has issued a list of old growth timber sales to be withdrawn from consideration on the BSNF. Civil disobedience is promised. Also, unknown persons have been using rearranged logging slash and white lime to "spell-out" to motorists on I-5 their feelings about clearcuts: "RAPE."

ELWA RIVER: Built against the societal laws of the time and the moral laws of Nature, the damns on the Olympic Peninsula's Elwa River provide only 30% of the electricity used by the local paper mill while depriving the local economy of an estimated two million dollars annually due to the loss of salmon runs. Consensus is building that the Elwa should flow free again, with a prominent Seattle columnist even suggesting a lottery for the privilege of pushing the plunger. The Free the Elwa rally on June 30 will provide the necessary kick in the arse to spur the process.

Washington Earth First! gatherings will be "quadrannual" events, occurring on each Solstice and Equinox. The next will be in Sauk Meadows, site of last year's protests to save Spotted Owls threatened by clearcuts.

For the third consecutive year, WAEF! organized Earth Day events at the University of Washington. This year's agenda focused on Grizzlies in the North Cascades. Featured speakers were Harvey Manning; Michael Frome; Arthur Dogmeat, who narrated Doug Peacock's excellent Grizzly footage; and a panel who discussed reintroduction of extirpated species. The events gained a front page article in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* and an AP wire story on the status of Grizzlies in the North Cascades.

The Road Show, featuring the deep ecology slide presentation "Doing Away With Dominance," has been seen by hundreds throughout the state. The show is still available.

Lastly, monkeywrenching has plagued Washington greedrapers in the last year. In fact, through a reliable source, we've learned that Whorehauser alone has been losing nine million dollars a year to ecotage and labor-related sabotage! Carry on!

The energy in Washington is high this summer and the message to the forces of destruction is clear: WE DON'T BELIEVE YOU ANYMORE!

WAEF! can be contacted at the addresses in our Directory.

Don't Trust Freddie Behind the Wheel

by Sparkle Plenty

While driving up toward McGraw Lookout in Hells Canyon National Recreation Area to investigate reports that a Forest Service timber sale had resulted in a double whammy — an archaeological site rudely "excavated" and a spring destroyed by logging — environmental inspectors Rick Bailey and Kate Crockett met Forest Service employees in an unplanned fashion.

Apparently exuberant over completing a long work day and champing at the bit to get home and put on the feedbag, FS employees Jeff Jenkins and Mike Reed were joyriding on the lefthand side of the road. Meanwhile, Bailey and Crockett, moving at their usual dignified and energy-conscious pace, turned right onto the McGraw Road; unfortunately, their lane was occupied by said Freds.

Brakes squealed, wheels cranked, gravel flew, and yes, Destiny met Fate, and all found themselves closer than they had ever wished to be. As Bailey extricated himself from the remains of his vehicle and proceeded to give a fair demonstration of Abyssus Pistoffus, and Crockett extricated her teeth from her lower lip, FS driver Jenkins (driving without license and registration) was heard to remark plaintively, "Well, it looks like we're gonna be late for dinner."

The bad news: the area of destruction remained unexamined. However, other concerned parties will document the scene of the crime, and Bailey and Crockett plan to return. The good news: a small Honda can do an amazing amount of damage to a Forest Service crummy. Nevertheless, Bailey and Crockett do not recommend this tactic. They do recommend that all travelers on FS roads wear seatbelts, and further caution all forest activists to avoid coming between Freddie and his meal.

18 Arrested in Three Actions in North Kalmiopsis

by Earth First! Siskiyou

Spurred by the arrests of three Earth First!ers on April 7 (see article last issue), the North Kalmiopsis campaign has continued to grow. On April 21, an affinity group from Arcata came up to celebrate John Muir's birthday in a way they knew he'd appreciate, by putting their bodies in the way of Wilderness destruction. Seven people were arrested at the newly constructed locked gate to the Hobson Horn Timber Sale area when they blocked the entrance to loggers that morning. One more person, who had become separated from the group when they tried to get further into the timber sale area, was arrested at noon after chaining himself to the gate by the neck and leg with kryptonite bike locks . . . to the musical accompaniment of Walkin' Jim Stoltz and Lone Wolf Circles.

"The Forest Service has it backwards," declared one protester. "Instead of locking this gate to prevent forest destruction in an area of national significance, they've locked this gate to prevent the Earth's protectors from doing their job."

It was a great day for John Muir, as protesters and supporters joined local kids for a parade and children's play at his Birthday Party at a campground along the Rogue River.

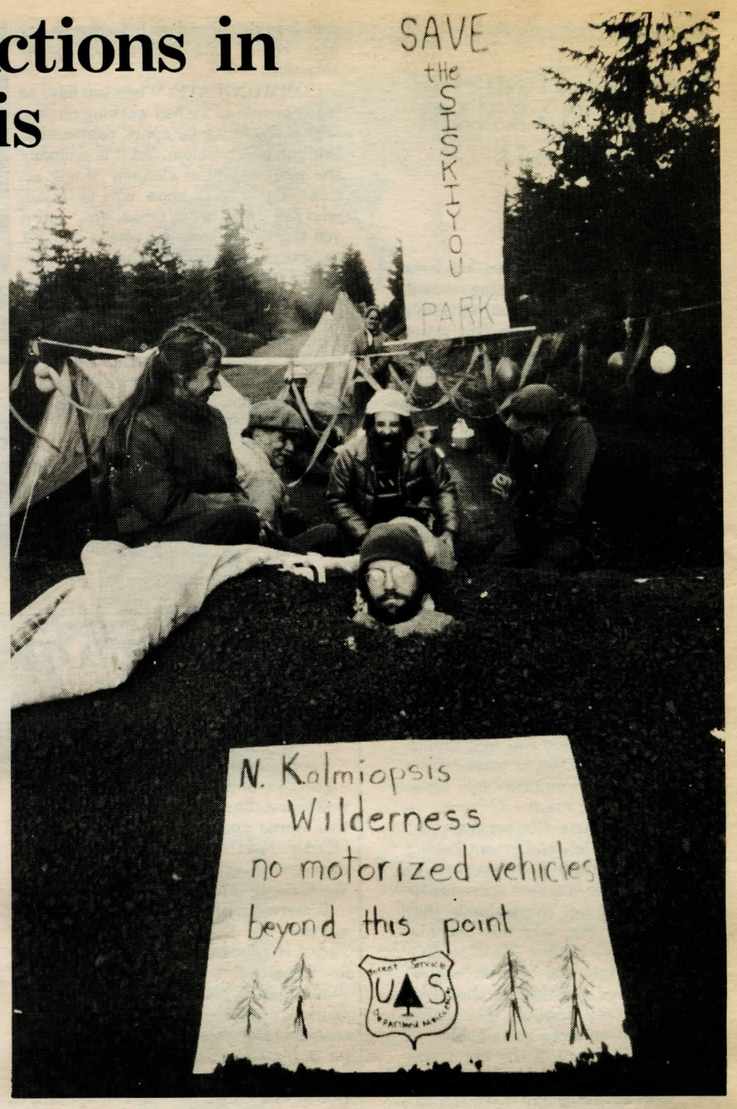
The Arcata 8 were later arraigned and charged with criminal trespass. They plead no contest, and were released with probation and community service sentences.

On May 8, members of the Takilma affinity group put together another dramatic action at the Hobson Horn gate. Two protesters were first chained to the gate by necks and legs, and then buried up to their necks in gravel, so that the gate itself was completely covered. When the workers arrived at 6 AM, they were amused, and there were a couple of hours for good talk before the sheriffs arrived. However, the sheriffs seemed to be getting tired of this, and one protester was roughly shoved around when he got too near a truck suspected of hauling gravel.

This same Takilma affinity group was a mainstay during the successful 1983 campaign against the Bald Mountain Road. The camp-in along the road the night before was fun, so the message from these folks is: "Five tents in May, 1000 this summer."

Arrestees are being charged with criminal mischief, and are being asked to pay restitution money to the logging company for the delay and removal of the gravel. The amount of money requested has been unreasonably high, so the Takilma folks are working with a lawyer. Contributions for the defense of the Takilma 7 should be sent to: 9545 Takilma, Cave Jct, OR 97573.

Earth First! Siskiyou is leading the fight to save the North Kalmiopsis. They recently completed a well-written and highly informative 16-page tabloid on the Kalmiopsis region and the campaign to save it. For copies of this tabloid—from whence come the two articles printed here — or to donate to this worthy old growth campaign, write: EF! Siskiyou, Box 212, Williams, OR 97544 (503-899-1696 or 846-7525).



EF! Siskiyou closes down the Hobson Horn Timber Sale.

Pacific Rim Coastal Rainforests & the Klamath Knot

by Earth First! Siskiyou

When the annual rainfall is upwards of 200 inches, and moss grows on every available surface, even dirt, then you can call the place a rainforest even if it's not in the tropics.

The Pacific Rim Coastal Rainforests stretch from Big Sur up to the Tongass in Alaska, yet only a few large blocks remain of what was once the mightiest forest on Earth. The largest grouping of areas of original forest is located within the Klamath-Siskiyou Bioregion in northwest California and southwest Oregon. Surrounded and severed from each other by highways and an advancing sea of clearcuts, the last remaining stands of primeval forest rise like enchanted castles from the dust of a battlefield; islands of beauty.

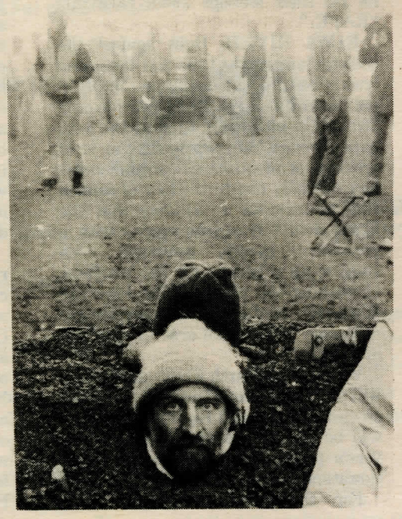
All together, these islands of unprotected roadless areas and protected Wilderness form a far-reaching archipelago of forested habitat known as the Klamath Knot. The rocks of the Klamath-Siskiyous are ancient pieces of ocean floor that uplifted over millions of years and smashed into the continental plate to form a mountain range long before the formation of the Cascades or Sierras to the east. The vegetation in these mountains mirrors the complexity of the rocks — but it's even more diverse because it's open to the sky, and to the variations of rainfall that occur as the rainforest coastal strip gradually shifts into the oak chaparral of the great inland valleys.

The ecological/geological zone of the Klamath Knot extends north 200 miles along the coast from about the 40th to the 43rd parallel. Hemmed in by agriculture and urbanization to the south, and by industrial clearcutting to the north, Klamath Knot forested habitat is connected to the Cascade-Sierran region by a narrow isthmus of forest along the Siskiyou crest by Mt. Ashland, and another extending to Mt. Shasta.

The winding canyon of the main stem of the Klamath River roughly bisects this area. To the south lie the Marble-Trinity and Yolla Bolly mountains, while to the north, the Siskiyou Mountain Province extends its branches across the Rogue River and over to the Cascades. At the northern tip of the Siskiyous lies the Rogue-Illinois Old Growth Island, one of the largest (200,000 acres) and most vegetatively diverse in the entire Klamath Knot Archipelago.

The North Kalmiopsis Roadless Area lies at the heart of this habitat island — center of controversy and ecological keystone. Thick stands of ancient forest still remain in four major unroaded drainages between the protected Wild Illinois River Canyon and the protected Wild Rogue River Canyon. If the forested watersheds of Silver, Indigo, Lawson, and Shasta Costa Creeks are successfully defended against further logging and roadbuilding, they will continue to form the heart of what may be the largest block of old growth forest and Spotted Owl habitat remaining in the Pacific Northwest. However, if the North Kalmiopsis is roaded and logged, the Rogue-Illinois Forest will be cut in two, and the long-term strength of the entire chain of old growth islands will perhaps be weakened beyond hope of recovery.

Only by seeing the whole fabric of life in this region, and the pattern that it takes, can we truly appreciate the importance of any one area within it. Therefore, Earth First! proposes that the entire Siskiyou Mountain Province be designated as a National Big Wilderness Park. This area still stands basically whole, and it needs to remain that way!



TWO FORKS
Multi-million Dollar Disaster

by Michael E Adams

If the Denver Water Board (DWB) has its way, a pristine, free-flowing river 24 miles southwest of Denver will be dammed. The proposed Two Forks dam and reservoir would flood 32 miles of the South Platte River between the towns of Deckers and Foxton. This is an area of rugged granite hills and open forests of pine and fir, with some of the finest trout water in the state. All of this will be under 350 feet of water if the DWB, a non-elected body with no public accountability, gets the go-ahead for a project for which cheaper and less damaging alternatives exist.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Two Forks is now available for public review in libraries throughout the state. A final EIS is due to be released this summer. The US Army Corps of Engineers plans to issue a Public Notice of Permit Pending and Public Hearing in August. Citizen involvement at the hearings, letters, and highly visible actions will be crucial at this time. This is the only hope of stopping the great juggernaut formed by the unholy marriage of the DWB and the Corps.

In its proposals for meeting Denver area water needs through the year 2035, the DWB doesn't seriously address moderate possibilities. All five of the DWBs alternative plans call for large, high-impact dams and reservoirs on the South Platte. Its first choice is the largest, the 1.1 million acre-foot Two Forks project.

If House bill #1158 passes the Colorado Legislature and is signed into law by our pro-development governor, not only will all of us in Colorado suffer the destruction of the Two Forks, we will be forced to pay for it as well! This bill, the Colorado Water Resources Development Fund, popularly known as the Two Forks bill, will force all Coloradans to pay for the enormous thirst of Denver.

The justification for the Two Forks dam is based on 1982 population projections prepared by the Denver Regional Council of Governments. These projections have since been revised downward, yet the DWB continues to use the outdated figures. The Denver metro area is already a bloated monstrosity of air pollution, toxic wastes, and traffic congestion. Now, the economy has finally stalled, and we should welcome this respite from the growth cancer. Instead, our politicians and business leaders are falling over each other in their attempts to stimulate growth.

The most serious flaw in the Two Forks proposal is the dismissal of conservation as a viable alternative. The average per capita consumption of water on the Eastern Slope is over 200 gallons per day — more than double the national average of 90 gallons per day. Most of this water goes to keeping non-native grasses green throughout the summer. Almost half the single-family homes in the Denver area are not even metered for water, so there is little incentive to conserve. The practice of xeriscaping, using native plants that require little or no watering, would eliminate the need for the Two Forks dam.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to the Corps and ask to be put on their mailing list for the Two Forks public hearings: Rosemary Hargrave, Senior Project Manager, Regulatory Branch, Corps of Engineers, POB 5, Omaha, NE 68101-0005. If you live in Colorado, attend the hearings in late summer and early fall throughout the Denver area. Write letters to local newspapers and the Corps. Tell them it would make more sense to leave Two Forks alone and flood Denver.

Michael Adams is a poet and environmentalist who lives in Eldorado Springs.

CONDOR CAUGHT

by Mark L Williams

. . . for the first time in 15,000 years, the foothills of Southern California are absent a familiar sight. (from *Los Angeles Times*' report on the capture of the last wild California Condor)

I found it disorienting, vaguely akin to working on a political campaign, retiring for the evening with your candidate in the lead on election night, then waking the next day to find out he'd been assassinated. The day before the last known free California Condor in creation — reductively dubbed "AC-9" by the science boys — was hauled in after being trapped by nets blasted from cannons as he fed on a calf's corpse, LAEF! had staged a successful demonstration in front of the LA Zoo. Culminating with civil disobedience, our protest alerted the public and the bird manipulators that *we will not stand quietly by as an extinction unfolds before our eyes.*

Originally, this article was simply to be a recounting of the demo; instead it has become a eulogy for AC-9 and his kind, their freedom, and the land they inhabited.

done, taking on the multinationals, land rapists, and NRA boneheads. Don't "alter" the condor — alter the forces of unchecked anthropocentrism!

You look over the area of their last stronghold and feel awful hollow . . . (Audubon researcher and vulture-snatcher Greg Sanders)

The loss of the last wild condor reverberated throughout a state that knows the loss of wild things too well: the Grizzly Bear, Gray Wolf, and Jaguar have passed from California already. The capture of AC-9 has called up a latent, primal sadness among the regional human populace. Even aforementioned condornapper Bloom was aware of the spiritual ramifications, when speaking to the press about AC-9: "Who knows? Maybe he (sensed) something was different, given the fact there were no other condors around."

Hours prior to writing these lines, I received a call from a large newspaper back east, interested in EF!'s side of the condor story. The concern and *emotion* are still out there: It's up to us to not let it die, and to walk point on habitat and related issues that the mainstream groups won't fight yet. And it's up to us to ride the zoos' asses, making sure they get those condors back out there.

AC-9 is part of the captive stock at San Diego now. Although his mate resides at LA, they didn't take him there as she has begun courting rituals with another male. Although condors usually mate for life, certain things are forgotten in captivity.

One last remark: the Chumash Indians, original human settlers of condor country, have a prophecy portending strange and terrible things when the shadow of the last condor is removed from the land. Out here, there's been a lot of loose talk lately about what, exactly, constitutes "earthquake weather."

Mark Williams is a playwright and EF! leader in Los Angeles.

EF! LA "Free the Condor" demo at Los Angeles Zoo.

Mouth of Russian River at Goat Rock Beach. Harbor Seals can be seen on beach in middle of picture. Photo by Paul Hughes.

Paradise Lost?
EF! Hawai'i Accepts Challenge

by Paul Faulstich

We do not value
The hill of dollars of the government.
We are satisfied with the stones,
The wondrous food of the land.
—song protesting Hawaii's annexation to the US

Like all once unspoiled lands, the Hawaiian Islands were once paradise. Now, hundreds of thousands of tourists come to Hawai'i every year to find "paradise" at Waikiki, the Don Ho Lounge, and tourist parks. Earth First! Hawai'i has a different vision of paradise, and we will fight to see its realization.

The newly (dis)organized EF! HI is a small but determined group. The issues facing us are huge: Hawai'i has the largest number of Endangered plant and animal species of any state in the US; a proposed geothermal plant threatens an area sacred to native Hawaiians; TBTs pollute the ocean, killing the reefs; a freeway is planned that would cut through an undeveloped valley on Oahu; acid rain threatens to raise its ugly head here; and, of course, development proceeds at an absurd rate. Also, nuclear weapons abound on the islands. The military is ubiquitous here. The military presence is a threat to the ecological integrity of the entire Pacific; the Navy has dumped more than five million gallons of radioactive waste into Pearl Harbor, and continues to pollute the waters with hazardous chemicals.

Driftnets — killers of marine mammals and seabirds — will be a focal point of EF! Hawai'i. We will protest their use through non-violent action. Yet our fight is not just to protect the Pacific, but *all* of this planet. EF!HI has joined the international protests against Burger King, and we have successfully spread our word to the public and have disturbed BK management.

EF!HI has begun to work with Green Party and Greenpeace friends to bring our deep ecological vision to the Pacific. We need suggestions and appropriate propaganda (anybody have a whale costume?). So far we have found our greatest support in the trade winds, the gentle rains, and the Pacific swells. But that's enough, for our love of Earth will carry us on. Let us finish where we began, with a song — this one a hula chant:

Upward there upward
The birds of the sky
Downward there downward
The flowers of the earth
Landward there landward
The forest of trees
Seaward there seaward
The fishes of the ocean
Sing the burden of the song:
How beautiful this universe!

Paul Faulstich is an anthropologist and EF! Hawai'i contact.

City Hall Sewage in Santa Rosa

by Paul Hughes

Officials in Santa Rosa, California, are considering a plan to pipe the city's sewage into the ocean. The resulting controversy is becoming one of the most bitter local environmental battles of recent decades. Warnings of litigation, civil disobedience, and monkeywrenching have been publicly voiced. One speaker at a recent public hearing stated that there may be "guerrilla action" against sewage pipeline construction in western Sonoma County and asked: "Can you afford the security?"

In February the city issued its draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on sewage disposal options. The initial public hearing was so tempestuous that the city council walked out of the jammed chambers. Another speaker noted, "The EIR does not address the cost of sabotage."

A major concern of ocean dumping opponents is preserving the extraordinary cleanliness of Sonoma coast waters and beaches. In her book *An Island Called California*, Elna Bakker ranks the Sonoma coast with the Cote d'Azur, Norwegian fjords, and White Cliffs of Dover for world-class scenic beauty. The Sonoma coast offers miles of unspoiled beaches, Harbor Seal pupping areas, migrating California Gray Whales, and tidepools filled with brightly colored starfishes, crabs, and anemones. Two state laws and one federal designation — the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary — currently protect portions of the county's coastal waters.

But Santa Rosa, the county's largest city, located 50 miles north of San Francisco, is considering a proposal to pump as much as 51.4 million gallons of sewage daily (by 2010) into the ocean 22 pipeline miles to the west. In the last two years the city twice illegally discharged sewage into the Russian River. Consequently, the city found itself under a state order to develop a long-term wastewater treatment and disposal plan. In response to the order, city officials commissioned, then certified, an EIR that looks at four sewerage alternatives but rates ocean dumping (or "outfall" in the sanitized jargon of its supporters) highest.

Key players on one side of the controversy are the small communities of western Sonoma County, where folks find a haven among redwoods, and the Sonoma County Environmental Defense. On the other side is a Santa Rosa City Council that critics say is controlled by development interests and is bent on promoting growth that will boost the city's population an additional 74% by 2010. Santa Rosa's head count, now 103,000, grew 5.4% in 1986.

Some observers fear a sewage pipeline to the sea would remove any limitation on growth that otherwise might have been presented by sewage treatment capacity — a prospect they say is not lost on developers or their proxies in city politics. Others say city sewage consultant CH2M Hill enjoys a special relationship with city hall that puts the firm in a choice position to receive the design contract if ocean dumping is approved. CH2M has been responsible for examining the sewerage alternatives under consideration.

Many are simply worried that ocean dumping will neither put the effluent out of mind nor out of sight. The Bodega Marine Lab in Bodega Bay, which uses the area for oceanographic study, conducted an experiment in which apples dumped at a proposed discharge point all floated back to shore within eight hours. Says marine biologist Joel Hedgpeth: "All ocean (discharge) should be far enough offshore that all that crud won't wash back on shore . . . that's a lot farther out than Santa Rosa thinks."

The Russian River Chamber of Commerce, Sebastopol City Council, Fishermen's Association of Bodega Bay, Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and nine conservation-related organizations have denounced the scheme. Three organizations are poised to file suit to force the city government to have its EIR rewritten.

Many opponents of the plan are promoting the Irrigation/Marsh/Bay (IMB) alternative. IMB would increase use of effluent for irrigation then empty the remainder into a constructed 1500-acre marsh on the shore of San Pablo Bay, 36 miles south. Excess marsh-cleansed freshwater would be discharged into the bay in winter months. Similar marshes are now in use in Arcata and Martinez, California.

With so much opposition, one might wonder why city officials are continuing their march to the sea. Richard Charter, who has led the fight against offshore oil leasing along the California coast and is gearing up for the sewage fray, thinks city officials are convinced ocean dumping is the most expedient choice.

"The City of Santa Rosa is playing a shell game with the public," he said. "(By certifying the EIR) they are trying to mask their real intent, which is to focus mainly on ocean outfall. They know they've got a problem. That's why they're keeping (ocean dumping) hidden among the weeds. It's steering the whole thing toward court."

Paul Hughes is a freelance environmental writer and coast lover.

Mountain Lions

Eight Arrested Protesting Mountain Lion Hunt

May 4 demo at California DFG headquarters. Photo by Brad Richards.

by Michael Robinson

As a result of the pressure Earth First! and the Mountain Lion Coalition (a mainstream group) have been exerting throughout the hearings process, several bills have been introduced into the state legislature. Assemblyperson Tom Bates' bill (AB467) proposed to reinstate the moratorium on trophy hunting the Mountain Lion. That bill drowned in the Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee. Concurrently, Senator Nicholas Petris introduced a bill (SB1687), which Bates will co-sponsor in the Assembly, that would ban the use of dogs in the hunts. It was hoped that allowing the hunt but not the hounds would overcome the objections of the powerful National Rifle Association (NRA), whose members primarily enjoy fiddling with their guns. However, the NRA has come out against SB1687. Petris' main barrier is Governor Deukmejian, who previously vetoed a moratorium on the lion hunt. Since most trophy hunters lose their sense of smell when deprived of car emissions, and effectively go blind in the absence of right angles and concrete, Petris' bill would reduce lion mortality tremendously. Unfortunately, those using dogs in violation of the law would only incur misdemeanor penalties, making it likely that hunters would risk the fine to get a lion. SB1687 should be amended to make its violation a felony.

SB1687 passed the Senate Natural Resources Committee and is destined for the Appropriations Committee. From there it goes to the Senate floor for a vote. If it passes the Senate the process must be repeated in the Assembly. Again, problems will surface in the Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee. It is vital that members of that committee receive correspondence supporting SB1687 (with the felony provision added).

A third bill reflects the point many Earth First!ers made in their testimony before the California Commission of Fish and Game in April, but that other environmentalists seemed loath to bring up — the hearings were a farce. It was obvious throughout the proceedings that: first, the commissioners' minds were closed to the wishes of the public; second, they lacked a basic scientific understanding necessary to evaluate the conflicting biological claims of the Wildlife Division and the real scientists; and third, they did not even understand their own mandate. At the end of the third hearing, after receiving testimony for three months, one of the commissioners asked another whether they were supposed to decide on the basis of the scientific evidence (i.e., Wildlife Division's "science") or the public's desires. None of them knew, so they asked the Department of Fish and Game — the agency which first proposed the hunt — for a legal opinion.

In response to this unprofessionalism, Assemblyperson Robert Campbell has introduced a bill (ACA44) to make the Commission more representative of the public and better able to assess the science it reviews. ACA44 would amend the State Constitution to mandate the inclusion in the Commission of a hunter; a fisher; a biologist specializing wildlife, fisheries, or ecology; an attorney specializing in resource law; and a "member of the general public with an interest in non-game species." This would go into effect in June, 1988, and would not curtail the current commissioners' six year terms. Campbell introduced ACA44 prior to the lion decision, but now ACA44 is tied to the lion issue and has been highly polarized as a result. It is supported by environmentalists and is opposed by such anti-lion groups as the Cattlemen's Association.

ACA44 would not affect this year's hunt, but if the lion can last a few more bloody seasons, it might end the hunt eventually. If ACA44 had passed a few years ago, possibly the California Condor would not now be extinct from the wild. It has the potential, if not perverted, of guiding the State toward relatively wise land and wildlife policies. We cannot afford to put all our time and money into fighting species by species for Earth's integrity as the current Commission is forcing us to do (see you next year at hearing for the Tule Elk, then the Desert Bighorn Sheep . . . !) As an overarching piece of legislation, it is tremendously important.

Since the governor now appoints people to the Commission solely based on political criteria, and since four of the five current commissioners are members of hunting groups, ACA44 would bring improvement. However, it does not go far enough. Earth First! proposes that the Commission of Fish and Game become the Commission for Wildlife Protection and include a wildlife biologist, two representatives of environmental groups with over 15,000 members in the state, and two active participants in a decentralized movement whose primary concern is the protection of wilderness for its own sake.

ACA44 swam through the Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee and next goes to the Elections, Reapportionment, and Constitutional Amendments Committee, where it is in danger of being elected, reapportioned and amended to pervert its intended function. Committee members will be under pressure to either kill the bill, or perhaps worse, to delete the most important addition to the Commission's membership, the person representing non-game species.

If the EF! alternative gains enough support it could save the bill and perhaps even strengthen it. If ACA44 gets through the Amendments Committee, it goes to Ways and Means, then to the Assembly floor, and then through a parallel process in the Senate.

Despite our success in bringing the Commission's disenfranchisement of the public to the attention of the legislature, our action at F & G headquarters received little media coverage. The hall we illegally blocked was blocked just as effectively by reporters and TV crews who actually outnumbered our entourage; but we were denied TV coverage and got only one buried article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. This is not for lack of media interest in the lion issue — it received several front page articles previously. What could we have improved to reach a wider audience?

Part of the blame lies with the *Miami Herald*, which had just scored the investigative journalism coup of the year with their report on Gary Hart's choice of friends. That put a premium on all coverage that night. Also, we were arrested in the afternoon, after many press deadlines had passed (perhaps that's why they warned us three times to move — to waste time). However, I think some of the reasons are deeper and should make us reflect on how we hope to convey our messages at demonstrations.

Earth First! is finally becoming well known, especially in California. With the welcome notoriety our colorful tactics have won us, comes the difficult privilege of articulating to a wider audience our unfamiliar philosophy — deep ecology. The problem is that deep ecology — our attitudes and beliefs — is not news. Nor are misdemeanor arrests and animal costumes news after the "human interest" angle has worn off. In our Sacramento protest we relied too much on both. First, we reiterated our Mountain Lion position (that lions have an inherent and inalienable right to exist, and that they cannot be conceptually severed from their habitat), which many reporters had heard at the hearings. Second, we assumed that the civil disobedience and lion costumes would still draw film footage as naturally as oil draws Hodel. We were wrong on both counts.

The "illegal assembly" and arrests should have taken place within minutes of the Commission's decision, while the media was present. We were even "offered" the opportunity by Executive Secretary Cribbs when we howled in collective anguish after the decision. He threatened to evict us from the auditorium so that they could proceed with their fatal agenda. Many of us wanted to defy his order, but we had not set up the elaborate social apparatus so helpful in ensuring the success of civil disobedience. So instead we returned three weeks later in need of a stronger explanation for our presence, and without the commissioners sitting and appearing so guilty and photogenically flustered.

When we did return we should have outlined for the press the future of our lion campaign. As one of the main combatants in the Mountain Lion war, EF!'s refusal to concede defeat after the Commission's supposedly final decision, is newsworthy. Furthermore, our demands should have been more sweeping and substantive. Finally (and this lack was due to my personal negligence) we should have had a media sheet at the demonstration outlining our main points. These measures would have improved coverage of the event, thus broadcasting our message to a wider audience.

Let me now expound on the future of our campaign. We are trying to encourage a substantial portion of the 98% of the pro-lion public to enter the lottery and vie for the 190 permits F & G will issue. If the fickle legislature votes down every other protection, and if the judiciary spurns the lion too (the Mountain Lion Coalition is filing suit), we can still reduce the number of hunters who win permits if we publicize quickly. (Bay Area EF! can provide information. See Karen's article this issue.)

Following that tactic, our actions will become more individualized, limited only by our imaginations. It is worth noting that F & G lists the names and addresses of the permit winners. If Petris' dog-banning bill fails, EF!ers might plan to spread commercially available Mountain Lion scent (used to train dogs) to confuse the hounds in areas where hunts are planned. You might wish to carry pepper in your pocket when camping this fall (see *Ecodefense*, Second Edition, p.298).

In any event, the lion's requiem has not been sung. Earth's despoilers, be they in DC or Sacramento, bleed oil and think on circuit boards. The California Mountain Lion's final fight, if it comes to that, will take place under the shameless northern Coast Redwoods, by the ever-passionate ocean waves of Big Sur, and on the Trinity Alps' unyielding slopes. Lion land. Earth First! land. Where our presence can thwart any technology used to locate or kill the silent cats. We'll be there. The lion will live!

WHAT YOU CAN DO: If you have a California address, write letters to your senator, assemblyperson and Governor Deukmejian supporting Petris' SB1687, banning dogs from the hunt. Specify that violators should incur felony — not misdemeanor — penalties. If any of the following Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee members are your Assembly representatives, your letters to them are VITAL: Chairperson Jim Costa (Fresno), David Kelley (Hemet), Robert Cambell (Richmond), Chris Chandler (Yuba City), William Filante (Green Brae), Harvey Triece (Bakersfield), Dan Hauser (Arcadia), Philip Isenberg (Sacramento), Bill Jones (Fresno), Steve Peace (Chula Vista), Sally Tanner (El Monte), Norm Waters (Plymouth).

Write letters to your senator, assemblyperson and the governor in support of the Earth First! version of ACA44 (see above). Ask that ACA44 mandate the immediate replacement of the current Commission with the reformed Commission. If any of the following members of the Elections, Reapportionment, & Constitutional Amendments Committee is your assemblyperson, your letter now could save species from extinction years down the trail: Chairperson Peter Chacon (L.A.), Vice Chairperson Richard Mountjoy (Arcadia), Bill Baker (Walnut Creek), Tom Bane (Van Nuys), Dennis Brown (Long Beach), Gary Condit (Modesto), Dave Elder (Long Beach), Johan Klaehs (San Leandro), Burt Margolin (L.A.), John Lewis (Orange). Remember, state representatives receive far less correspondence than federal representatives do, and are forced to take note when even 20 of their constituents feel strongly about an issue.

Enter the Mountain Lion "Lottery for Life!" If the hunt the goes through, call F & G and ask them to send you a list of lottery winners.

Contribute $$ to EF! Bay Area, Davis, and Santa Cruz (or your local EF! group working on the issue). If you want your money to go toward reimbursing needy permit purchasers, specify so and send to Bay Area EF!

Addresses: Governor Deukmejian, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814. Legislators, same address.

Michael Robinson is a long-time EF!er, and one of the eight arrested in Sacramento.

Lion Hunt

by New Mexico Earth First!

Forty-eight Mountain Lions will be killed in the next three years in a "preventative harvest" in unit 30 (Guadalupe Mountains in southeastern NM) under an order passed by the State Game Commission on May 20. Former New Mexico Cattle Grower's President, Bob Jones, has wasted little time since his appointment to the Game Commission in giving the ranchers what they want.

The Game Commission had gone on a secret, closed trip to the Guadalupe Mountains, where they met ranchers. Bob Jones provided horses for the commissioners to ride. The ranchers had a barbecue for them. Two weeks later, the commissioners voted to pass the new regulation. The Commission's behavior was a clear violation of the Open Meetings Act.

The Commission approved this program despite their own admission that the preventative harvest would not solve the predation problem. Lion kills have been increased in the past few years without a corresponding decrease in predation. These kills, combined with sport kills and illegal kills, will have a serious impact on the lion population.

The latest news on this issue is bad. In late May, New Mexico Attorney General Hal Stratton rejected a state representative's request — based on an alleged violation of the Open Meetings Act — to stay action by the Game Commission on lion control.

Write to the Game Commission and express outrage at their actions: Game Commissioners Christine Digregorio, Thomas Arvas, Bob Jones, Dick Allgood, and Gerald Maestas (Chair), c/o NM Dept of Game & Fish, State Capitol, Santa Fe 87503.

Fight for the Cougar

by Peter Bralver

In the latest action in Earth First!'s Mountain Lion campaign, EF!ers gathered from throughout California in front of the building where a few weeks before we had expressed our sorrow and rage at the decision of the Fish and Game Omission to allow a trophy hunting kill of 190 lions. We had formed strategy on that solemn day in California's capital, Sacramento, that later led us to trespass and unlawfully assemble in Fish and Game Department domain. This civil disobedience followed a demonstration outside the building housing the ignoble Fish and Game Apartment. There, 30 people represented California's 1000-4800 remaining Cougars — animals so noble that DH Lawrence wrote in "Lobo" of a trapped, dead Mountain Lion that we might easily spare a million or two humans and never miss them, but the missing face of the Mountain Lion was a great gap in the world. (*Collected Poems*, Lawrence)

The drama of civil disobedience, for which our safety was almost guaranteed by the extreme unpopularity of Fish & Game's trophy hunting decision, meant we would probably have no price to pay beyond the insignificant discomfort of wearing handcuffs for a couple hours.

Our main chant, both in front of the Fish and Game building where we demonstrated and inside that building where we civilly disobeyed, was: "You can't stop me, I'll fight for the Cougar . . . until the day die," to the tune of "Fightin' for the Union."

Rufus Cohen made a 2:30 appointment with Harold Cribbs, executive secretary of the Fish and Game Commission. This was our strategy for the demonstrators' entry into the building. Rufus presented the demands we articulated to the media downstairs: 1. permanent moratorium on trophy hunting of lions in California; 2. habitat protection replacing wildlife management; 3. replacement of the pro-hunting commissioners by strong environmentalists.

We gathered on the 12th floor outside the F & G offices, where Rufus was rudely rebuffed in his audience with Cribbs and none of the rest of us could gain entrance. Eight of us, with Michael Robinson and Sequoia wearing Cougar suits, linked ourselves in a circle in the hall and refused to move, despite warnings to disperse or be arrested for unlawful assembly. We quoted Albert Schweitzer and Joe Streetverse until the police removed us in handcuffs. Split into groups of male and female, we refused to be cited on the spot and were removed to the police station. At the station, having been photographed by the media as we entered the arrest vans, we chose to be cited instead of jailed.

Each new act of civil disobedience in defense of Earth joins us in a long and distinguished ongoing march. Through our political gesture there is forged a stronger bond between the Cougar and our Tribe. May the force of our CD fuel a smoking comet of a monkeywrench in the charnel house of the trophy hunters!

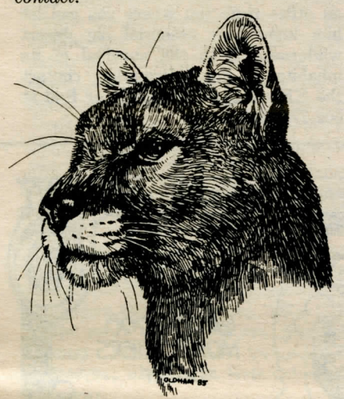
EF! Protests New Mexico Lion Kill

by Rich

The Deep Ecology Medicine Show ended its spring tour in Santa Fe on May 31 in fine fashion, bringing Lone Wolf Circles home to New Mexico and bringing green fire to the eyes of an emerging group of Earth First!ers in the Land of Enchantment.

Following the show, we held our second action in two weeks, at the Headquarters of NM Game & Fish, where 12 Earth First!ers exercised their right to be heard on the issue of a recent increase in planned Mountain Lion depredation kills. Local stations and newspapers were on hand as the group went into the building howling and issued a statement that emphatically put New Mexico Earth First! between the rifle and the lion. The group pounded on the doors while cameras rolled, before a public affairs spokesman was finally sent out to take the heat. He agreed that wildlife was taking a back seat to the livestock lobby and the hooved locusts, but offered his powerlessness as an excuse. All of us felt the power of our action in our hearts and offered that as our response.

Rich is Earth First's Santa Fe contact.



Mountain Lion Campaign Continues

by Karen Pickett

With the approval of a Cougar trophy hunt (see Beltane issue) our campaign has changed lanes and received widespread public attention. Besides civil disobedience in Sacramento as reported in this issue, our plan to enter the lottery for hunting permits and buy the "lion's share" of tags has received widespread public and media attention and support. Some environmentalists have already taken the hunter safety training course necessary to obtain a hunting license, and many others are registering now to enter the lottery by the July 7 deadline. California Earth First!ers should have received our lion lottery fact sheet with instructions on the steps involved. If you didn't receive one, contact us now! We've received pledges from people to buy the $75 tags won in the lottery by those intending to use them in defense of the lions (i.e., *not* use them). If you can help buy these permits, please let us know! Also, all EF!ers entering the lottery should tell us they've entered so we can centrally coordinate. Contact Bay Area EF!: BAEF!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516.

Mogollon Rim Lions Protected

by Dan Dagget

At their April meeting, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission made one of the most momentous decisions in the state's predator management history. For the first time, it banned the killing of Mountain Lions over a large portion of Arizona. The Commission voted unanimously to create a pursuit only season from January 1, 1988, to June 30 along virtually the entire Mogollon Rim. During that time, hunters will be able to track and tree lions with their hounds but will be banned from killing them.

A motion by commissioner Thomas Woods would have closed the season entirely, but failed on a tie vote that was broken by Commission Chairman Fred Baker. Linn Montgomery supported the amendment. Frances Werner and Larry Adams opposed it.

In giving her reasons for opposing the closed season, Ms. Werner complained that she had been "buried by letters saying the mountain lion was in danger of becoming extinct." (Mountain Lions Unlimited, an offshoot of the Sierra Club's Plateau Group in Flagstaff, had sent out an appeal for letters prior to the Commission meeting.) Saying that such hysteria has made it nearly impossible to kill lions for research and now even threatens sport hunting, she voted against the closed season. (Yet, the Arizona Game and Fish Department research branch has never proposed killing lions to study them.)

Prior to the Commission's decision, lions of all ages and sexes could be hunted year round over the entire state with the exception of National Parks and one small area southeast of Flagstaff. For most of the state's history, hunters and ranchers were encouraged to kill lions. Until 1967, a $75 bounty was offered for any lion killed in the state. After that, the cats were listed as big game animals subject to sport hunting, with hunting laws so lax that lions were scarcely any better off with their apparently enhanced status. One of the areas where that new status helped least was along the Mogollon Rim.

Statistics submitted at the Commission meeting by the Game and Fish Department Research Branch showed that lion numbers have dropped significantly along the rim in recent years. They also showed that larger numbers of young animals than usual are being taken by hunters. "That indicates the population is under severe stress," Commissioner Montgomery said.

Hunting pressure on lions is increasing due to the growing popularity of the sport among hunters from Phoenix, according to Dave Brown, head of the Game Branch of AGFD. However, the main reason given for the drop in lion numbers along the rim was the fact that the animals are especially vulnerable to hunters using hounds during months when snow makes them easier to track in the high country.

In another recent development that may improve the lion's status in Arizona, the legislature approved an increase in the amount that can be charged for lion hunting tags, from the current give-away of $1.50 to a maximum of $10.75. Before the increase becomes law, however, it must be approved by the Commission. Ms. Werner and the other commissioners can expect to be buried with letters again. Hopefully this time they will all listen.

BULLETIN: Just when it looked like the harried lions of Arizona's Mogollon Rim would get a break, the Animal Damage Control Unit of the US Department of Agriculture proposed a program that would put them back under the gun. The culprit is that old nemesis of all things wild and beautiful, the cow. Supposedly, lions have been wreaking havoc with cows around Prescott. To remedy that situation, Arizona state director of the US Agriculture Department, David Juve, has proposed a predator control program which could frustrate the recent move by the Arizona Game and Fish Department to limit the number of lions killed along the rim. According to an article in the *Prescott Courier*, the project would cost $60,000 a year to remedy a livestock depredation problem that has reportedly cost $30,000 a year since 1983.

It's no surprise that such a move comes at such a time from such an agency. The Animal Damage Control unit is an extermination agency. To stay in business they have to manufacture problems. They have no commitment to wildlife other than to decimate it. You can help stop this ill advised assault on a magnificent animal by writing to the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors at 255 E Gurley St, Prescott, AZ 86301.

USUAL DISGUSTING PLEA FOR MONEY

The Earth First! movement runs on your financial support. We don't need as much as other groups since we are grassroots, volunteer, decentralized and have low overhead. Moreover, you get to select where your hard-earned money goes. Don't send your contributions to this newspaper, send them directly to one of these hard working groups:

***Earth First! Foundation, POB 50681, Tucson, AZ 85703**
(contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible)

***Nomadic Action Group (Mike Roselle), POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516**

***Colorado Earth First!, POB 1166, Boulder, CO 80306**

***Arizona Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703**

***Texas Earth First!, POB 7292, University Station, Austin, TX 78713**

***Oregon Earth First!, POB 605, Joseph, OR 97846**

***Montana Earth First!, Box 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715**

***Bay Area Earth First!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516**

***Washington Earth First!, POB 95316, Seattle, WA 98145**

***Santa Cruz Earth First!, POB 344, Santa Cruz, CA 95061**

***New Mexico Earth First!, c/o 3957 Westview, Las Cruces, NM 88005**

***Siskiyou Earth First!, POB 212, Williams, OR 97544**

***Los Angeles Earth First!, 13110 Bloomfield St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423**

San Diego EF! Entertained in Wilson's Office

by Del Mar Man

On May 22, inhabitants of the California desert (Owl, Desert Tortoise, Bighorn Sheep, Banded Gecko, Cholla, Tarantula, Coyote and their San Diego Earth First! sympathizers) journeyed from their rapidly shrinking habitat to discuss with US Senator Pete Wilson (R-CA) why he hasn't supported Senator Cranston's (D-CA) California Desert Protection Act, Senate bill S7.

Cranston's bill, although considered radical by those with shallow environmental views, is really quite mild, as it has no road closures or restrictions on mining claims. Affecting only 10.5 million of the total 25 million acres of the California Desert Conservation Area, this compromise bill is far less comprehensive than the 17.5 million acre Earth First! California Desert Wilderness Proposal. (See desert article in this issue.)

We had written letters to Wilson asking his position on the bill, and had received form letters stating that he would not take a stand until the BLM finished its study of the area — in 1991! This tactic would allow four more years of rape and scrape, drill and spill in our habitat, thus decreasing the area eligible for Wilderness designation.

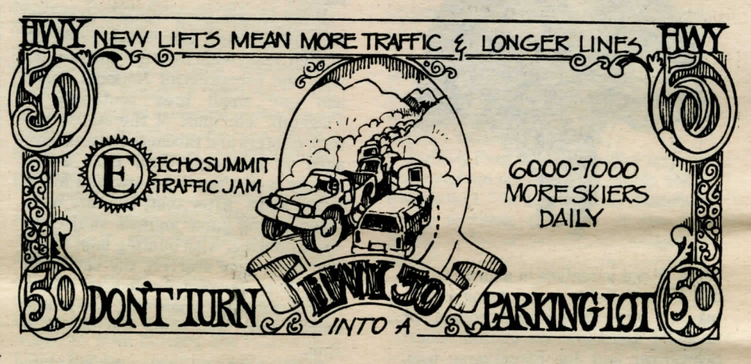
May 22: We meet at the Federal building at 2:30 only to find that Wilson has moved his office six blocks away. (Was this an evasive maneuver? That sneak!) As the reporter from the *San Diego Union* approaches, Todd whispers: "Oh shit! What are we going to do now?" Reporter arrives. "What are you guys planning to do?" EF!ers: "Umm, we're going to march from here to Wilson's office." Yeah, that's it, a march! So we did. Along the way we sang a variation of Bill Oliver's "Habitat":

Habitat, habitat, have to have
a habitat...
The Desert is a habitat,
a very special habitat
It's where the Bighorn Sheep are at,
it's where the Rattlesnake gets fat
If you don't give the desert back
We'll make your RV tires go flat
(Pssht!)
The Desert is a habitat
that we depend on!

San Diego EF! and desert friends outside Sen. Pete Wilson's office. Photo by Del Mar Man.

We reached Pete Wilson's office only to find that he was not in town. His district director allowed the animals a "visit" in her office. Lone Wolf Circles, who had stayed in town for the action after inspiring us with the Deep Ecology Medicine Show, told her that Wilson was wimping out by not taking a stand. "Oh, please don't say that he's wimping out. . . . He wants to see further studies done by the professionals and then to make wise case-by-case decisions." The animals presented a written overview of the EF! Proposal.

Pete Wilson probably has offices in Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington, DC. Find out if there's an office near you where you can let him know how essential big desert wilderness is to the survival of its inhabitants. For information, contact the EF!ers at 619-481-6784, or Rod at 602-776-1335.



Sierra Ski Ranch

by Bromo Bison

A massive development is being planned for the top of California's Echo Summit, near South Lake Tahoe. The "Sierra Ski Ranch Expansion Project" is gaining momentum, and it is time for tree-huggers to write letters.

The proponents want 14 new ski lifts, a 300-room hotel, 180-room lodge, 20,000 square-foot day lodge, condos, gas stations, stores, roads, etc. In short, this would be another huge scar designed to attract Yuppies at the expense of sub-alpine wilderness.

The Echo Summit corridor (Highway 50) is overdeveloped now, and the highway is already congested during the skiing and gambling seasons. In addition to traffic problems, there will be impacts from sewage, smog, erosion, siltation, etc. The project will impact nearby Lake Tahoe, Desolation Wilderness, Pacific Crest Trail, sensitive plant and animal communities (including Spotted Owl), and fisheries. Such an expansion of facilities on Echo Summit could inhibit animal migration, causing isolation of populations and thereby a loss of genetic pooling between the east and west sides of the Sierra Nevada.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Bruce Walters, El Dorado County, 360 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667. Tell him: 1) you oppose the entire Sierra Ski Ranch Expansion Project, 2) you want to be informed of all future public comment periods, and 3) to keep your letter on file for the formal record. And since they're so concerned about getting rich, clip the Hwy $50 bill below and send it with your letter.

Grizzlies Get Break From ORVs

by Mudslide Slim

Moments before a court hearing would determine if a temporary restraining order would be issued against the US Forest Service (FS), FS Chief Dale Robertson reinstated a closure to off-road-vehicles (ORVs) for a portion of the Swan Mountain Range in northwest Montana in order to prevent the case being heard in court. The chief's decision marks a victory for the Grizzly Bear and conservationists who have long fought for controls on ORVs in Grizzly habitat.

Swan View Coalition and the National Wildlife Federation filed suit in federal district court on April 28 to require the FS to reinstate an area closure to motorized vehicles authorized by the Flathead National Forest Supervisor to protect Grizzly Bear use of critical habitats in the Noisy Face area during the spring Grizzly use period of April 1 to July 1. The Montana Trail Bike Riders Association filed an appeal of the Supervisor's closure decision and requested it be stayed. The Regional Forester issued a stay on April 13, hence lifting the closure order and exposing the Grizzly to displacement by ORVs again.

Swan View Coalition and National Wildlife Federation promptly filed appeals of the Regional Forester's stay and demanded the FS reinstate the closure by April 27 to avoid legal action. The groups' appeals cited numerous studies of the Noisy Face which found major reductions in the ability of the Grizzly to use its spring habitats in the area due to ORV and road uses.

Forest Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) tours of the area in 1984 indicated that "motorcycle use . . . is undoubtedly precluding or greatly reducing grizzly bear use." These findings were confirmed following mapping of the area's road and ORV trail system by the Swan View Coalition and analyses by the FS which indicated road/trail densities of up to 6.6 miles per square mile in Grizzly Bear Management Situation 1 habitat where the Flathead Forest Plan allows a maximum of 1 mile per square mile. Yet the Forest Service has failed to issue a single restriction on ORV use in the area since it was first logged decades ago. Also, the FS has either allowed illegal motorcycle races or authorized races via special use permits which allowed new trails to be constructed.

Photo by Great Bear Foundation.

Following Swan View's administrative appeal of the last motorcycle race in the area in 1985, the FS launched a 30 member public "task force" to study the problems of recreation on the Noisy Face. Keith Hammer, chairman of Swan View Coalition, claims, "The Forest Service effectively abandoned biology and law for socio-political hype when it went into the task force without grizzly bear habitat component mapping, other essential wildlife habitat mapping and similar analysis tools.

Hammer feels that the FS never seriously intended to implement the Noisy Face ORV closure, which effects 3700 acres of spring "biker habitat." "By the time the motorcycle club appealed the closure order and the Regional Forester granted their stay, there was yet to be a single closure sign put up in the area. Nor did the Forest Supervisor attempt to justify his closure order to the Regional Forester in any meaningful way. It was readily apparent that the closure order was signed to get the local FS people off the hook and that the Regional Forester's reversal was to place environmentalists in the position of being the 'bad guys' by going to court to resecure the area."

The spring 1987 area closure is intended to be temporary, effective until the FS completes a final management plan this summer. The District Ranger has selected an alternative presented by the local motorcycle club as his "preferred alternative" even though the FWS finds fault with the alternative. The Forest Service will soon issue a biological evaluation for the "preferred alternative," which will go to the Fish and Wildlife Service. It appears the FS doesn't want to take the heat and is transferring it to the FWS.

In their handling of the Noisy Face resource problems the FS has failed to assume the strong conservation posture mandated by the National Forest Management Act. As Hammer noted, "It was the Fish and Wildlife Service and the conservation movement which secured the northern Swan Range as Situation 1 grizzly bear habitat during the Forest Planning process and the FS has finally admitted to the repeated sightings and signs of the grizzlies which occupy this area . . . It's time they finally owed up to managing the area for what it is — some of the last and best occupied grizzly bear habitat in the lower 48 states."

While attorneys for Swan View and the Wildlife Federation met with the motorcyclists' and federal attorneys on April 30, a telex message to Swan View was wired from the Chief, reinstating the closure order. Environmentalists left the case pending in the event the Forest Service should attempt to reverse their decision again prior to July 1. Meanwhile, the closure signs are up and the Swan View Coalition is carefully monitoring Forest Service enforcement of the ORV restrictions.

The Swan View Coalition needs your financial support to cover expenses of this lawsuit. Please help them work to save the Grizzly by sending contributions to: POB 1901, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Roadbuilders Halted on Burr Trail

by Fred Swanson

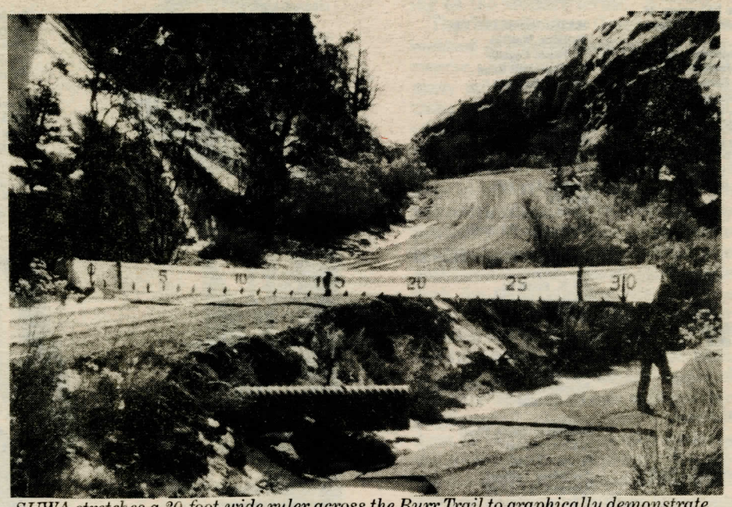
Four Utah conservation groups have temporarily halted a southern Utah county's attempt to "improve" the Burr Trail, a scenic dirt road through the Escalante canyon country. The Sierra Club, National Parks and Conservation Association, Wilderness Society, and Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance brought suit in federal district court in Salt Lake City last February to block Garfield County's planned expansion of the Burr Trail into a paved tourist highway. On March 10, Judge Aldon Anderson handed down a preliminary injunction against the county, stopping the road work until a final hearing is held in August.

The groups went to court after the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) refused to assume responsibility for reviewing the county's plans for the road, which is completely on federal land. County officials want to turn the Burr Trail into a major tourist highway linking Bryce Canyon National Park with the resort complex at Bullfrog, on the shore of "Lake Powell." But the conservation groups say that the county lacks a proper right-of-way on which to widen the road.

While the BLM looked the other way, Garfield's contractor began moving heavy equipment to a hidden staging area near Boulder, at the western end of the 66-mile-long road. Conservationists immediately went to court, claiming that the BLM must evaluate the county's right-of-way as well as review the project for compliance with federal environmental laws. The groups' attorneys presented evidence that the project would violate the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, BLM Organic Act, and BLM wilderness study policies.

The Burr Trail traverses two BLM Wilderness Study Areas and additional lands proposed for Wilderness designation by the Utah Wilderness Coalition. The trail bisects a million acres of red-rock wildlands in the upper Escalante country — which is why conservationists oppose its upgrading. They fear that paving of the road would open this region to extensive off-road-vehicle use, large-scale coal, uranium, and tar-sand exploitation, and additional resort development at "Lake Powell."

Garfield County obtained two million dollars to begin preparing the Burr Trail for paving from an obscure state fund normally used to mitigate impacts from energy projects. The money would have been used to widen, straighten, realign, and add drainage to the western part of the road as far east as Capitol Reef National Park. At a contractors' tour of the trail held early in February (which environmentalists "crashed"), Garfield County commissioner Del Lefevre conceded that the project was preparatory to eventual paving of the entire road. In court, however, the county's attorneys argued that the project was a mere "maintenance/upgrade" to make the road safe for the public.



SUWA stretches a 30-foot-wide ruler across the Burr Trail to graphically demonstrate the extent of Garfield County's widening plans. Photo by Rodney Greeno.

Twice during the trial, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance staff drove the Burr Trail photographing county road-survey stakes, to document the extent of the roadbuilding plans. They illustrated the proposed widening of the road by stretching a 30-foot-wide banner marked in one-foot increments across the trail. Photographs placed in the judge's hands showed the improvised yardstick extending far beyond the current road's edge. The dramatization proved effective.

Local officials have long wanted to pave a road through the heart of the Escalante region, linking Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks — the major tourist draws in southwestern Utah — with Mesa Verde National Park, the principal attraction in southwest Colorado. A paved Burr Trail would also speed visitors to the motorboat marina and resort at Bullfrog, on the former Colorado River.

Utah conservationists argue that a paved-road link between the region's major National Parks was completed with the paving of the Boulder Mountain road over the Aquarius Plateau in 1985. But the Boulder Mountain route leads tourists to the small Wayne County communities of Torrey and Hanksville. Conservationists suspect that Garfield County officials would rather boost business at Bullfrog — in Garfield County.

Conservationists maintain that the Boulder Mountain road is a more logical route for summertime visitors, winding as it does through cool aspen forests with stunning vistas over the canyons. From these viewpoints, novelist Wallace Stegner coined the phrase "the geography of hope" during a 1955 visit.

Although never intended to be a tourist route, the Burr Trail does invite leisurely exploration. It invites the traveler to get out of the car and explore the dozen side canyons it crosses. But Garfield officials seem to fear that this kind of intimate experience fails to generate enough tourist dollars.

Conservationists have for three years fought the paving of the Burr Trail. First, they stopped a paving appropriation in the Utah state legislature. Then they stopped a seven million dollar federal appropriation to gravel and pave parts of the road.

The road cuts through narrow sandstone canyons, in places spanning as little as 12 feet in width. Where it crests the Circle Cliffs, the road opens to a sweeping panorama of pinyon- and juniper-covered benchlands. From the crest of the Waterpocket Fold, in Capitol Reef Park, the trail descends to the desert mesas surrounding the southern Henry Mountains.

Although Garfield County attempted to show in the recent trial that the road is unsafe, the Burr Trail is actually an easy drive in most conditions for almost any vehicle. Flash floods and prolonged rainstorms render the road impassable occasionally, but the traveler need only keep a weather eye to decide when a trip should be postponed.

The Burr Trail trial will resume in June and the final hearing will be in August. Only then will conservationists know if the preliminary injunction against the road work will be made permanent. An appeal to a higher court is possible regardless of the outcome.

Even if conservationists prevail in court, the threat of paving will remain. A seven million dollar federal appropriation for Burr Trail paving is still on the books, waiting only for Congress to authorize its release. Senator Jake Garn, who attempted to pass an authorizing resolution last year over conservationists' objections, may try again during the current session of Congress. And Garfield County officials may attempt again to force an appropriation from the Utah state legislature, despite the state's ongoing fiscal crisis.

Utah conservationists have vowed to oppose Burr Trail paving in media forums, before public agencies, and in the courts. You can help Utah conservationists by sending a contribution to the Burr Trail Legal Defense Fund, 436 E Alameda Ave, SLC, UT 84111. The fund, administered by the four groups bringing suit, will be used to meet court and research costs. The attorneys are donating their time.

Based in Salt Lake City, Fred Swanson is the Metro Representative of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance.

Cameras Hurt Bears

by The Great Bear Foundation
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The Great Bear Foundation says wildlife photographers and Grizzly Bears are both suffering the consequences of excessive pursuit of closeups of the Grizzly — an Endangered species. "People and bears have died because of commercial pressure to publish closeups," GBF President Lance Olsen says.

Last October, a photographer was killed by a Grizzly in Yellowstone National Park; and this April, another photographer was killed by a Grizzly in Glacier National Park. Both men saw a bear at a distance and moved close to photograph; but, Olsen says, "It's a mistake to heap all the blame on the photographers . . . They are under pressure to get a closeup because that's the photo they can sell . . . And the publishers are responding to public demand for the close look at wildlife that closeup photos provide, so the public has a hand in perpetuating the problem; a whole series of problems pop up because closeups are so popular."

Amateur photographers try to imitate the closeups they see in magazines and books. This means more people move close to Grizzlies. The bear that killed the photographer in Yellowstone was herself killed by park rangers. While it is common to think of wildlife photography as harmless, it can force Grizzlies to leave a feeding site, and even get them killed.

The problem can be at least partly solved in the near future. Conscientious editors can start using more panoramic shots where the Grizzly is shown at a distance. Such photos are available. The ethics, beauty, and educational value of Grizzly photography can thereby be improved while safety is increased. In panoramic shots, the beauty of the landscape is added to that of the bear. Also, showing the Grizzly in its habitat has educational merit that a closeup can't duplicate.

GBF recommends a shift in emphasis, not an abolition of closeups. GBF recommends that closeups be recycled, so that previously published ones are used again and again.

Mt. Graham Red Squirrel OK'd as Endangered

by Ursa Power

On May 27, Assistant Secretary of the Interior William Horn signed the proposal which officially added the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus grahamensis*) to the Endangered Species list. This represented a major step forward in the battle for the preservation of Mt. Graham and will hopefully assure the survival of the rare squirrel which faces obliteration by the University of Arizona's proposed Mt. Graham observatory.

Arizona Earth First! and other environmental groups who have been fighting the astronomers' cancerous development plans for three years rejoiced over news of the listing. In the two weeks preceding the deadline for a US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) nod or veto of the proposal, letters bombarded Director Frank Dunkle's office asking why the listing had been delayed. Even Washington lobbyists from mainstream conservation groups pressured the Endangered Species office to move without additional delay.

Had the listing package not been approved by FWS before the deadline, several national groups were prepared to go to court and use the Mt. Graham Red Squirrel as a test case against Dunkle's pro-development delaying tactics used in other proposed listings. Fortunately, this was unnecessary, partly because of support for the listing from the FWS regional office in Albuquerque.

The University of Arizona, which had staunchly opposed Endangered status for the squirrel, reversed themselves in characteristic fashion immediately after they learned the listing was approved. Before a public announcement had been made, the U of A prepared a news release which claimed they endorsed the listing, but that it "in itself was not enough." They brashly asserted that the squirrel needs them to develop a "plan for habitat" which will ensure its survival and still allow telescope development! This laughable contradiction was concocted by U of A vice president for research Laurel Wilkening and is in keeping with U of A's absurd claims that their mini-city will enhance the rare spruce-fir forest atop Mt. Graham.

Pro-observatory leaders in Graham County, in which Mt. Graham is situated, are second only to the U of A for mouthing absurdities on the issue. Wrongly convinced the observatory would benefit the area economically, Board of Supervisors Chairman Ben Smith pleaded with the US Forest Service (FS) to allow the astronomers 35 acres for development as this is not much compared to "over a million acres of marijuana growing in the National Forests." Ironically, 35 acres of marijuana grown on Mt. Graham would contribute much more to the local economy than would the observatory!

Environmentalists now await the Coronado National Forest's biological assessment on the level of jeopardy to the squirrel. Sources indicate that chances of extinction with telescope development will be higher than previously reported in the Draft EIS. Even extinction probability with no development is expected to jump to 30% in the latest report. If this is not enough to convince the Fish and Wildlife Service to disallow any mitigation and the Forest Service to deny any land allocation to the developers, then other tactics may be necessary to stop the project.

This spring, the temporary Steward Observatory testing camp on High Peak proved itself vulnerable even under several feet of snow when an angry strike force painted over telescope mirrors and covered a trailer and other equipment with "Save Mt. Graham" graffiti. "No Scopes" and "U of A Go Home" slogans have been painted, erased, and repainted on the highway as warnings to the astronomers who continue to occupy High Peak under the pretense of "site testing," when actually no data is being collected.

Our patience is wearing thin. The U of A must retreat from High Peak and remove all traces of their presence. They must prepare to accept defeat at the hands of Earth Warriors if the paper shufflers fail to execute their legal responsibilities to stop this foul project.

The Earth First! Directory

The Earth First! Directory lists the contact points for the international Earth First! movement. It is divided into three sections: 1) National EF! offices in the United States, and international contacts; 2) Active EF! Chapters or Groups; and 3) Contact persons where there is as yet no active EF! group. If you are interested in becoming active with the Earth First! movement, contact the folks listed for your area.

Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is an independent entity within the international Earth First! movement, and is not the newsletter of the Earth First! movement. It does, however, provide a forum for Earth First!ers around the world. This directory is provided as a service to independent EF! groups. If you would like to be listed as a contact or as a group, please contact Bob Kaspar (305 N. Sixth St., Madison, WI 53704 (608)241-9426). Please send address changes or corrections to him also. If you do not have a phone number listed, please send it to him. Bob acts as coordinator for local EF! groups for the EF! movement.

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(516)862-9450

PENNSYLVANIA
John McFarland
POB 179
Pt. Pleasant, PA 18950

David Hafer
c/o Otzinachson Group
POB 65
Lewisburg, PA 17837
(717)523-3107

Antoinette Dwinga
842 Library Ave.
Carnegie, PA 15106
(412)279-8911

Mike Podgurski
945 Gordon St.
Allentown, PA 18102
(215)776-1353

TENNESSEE
Brian Lee Hickok
POB 202
Maryville, TN 37803
(615)856-6525

UTAH
Julien Puzey
June Fulmer
864 Roosevelt Ave.
Salt Lake City, UT 84105
(801)484-7344

Special Events for Earth First!ers

***KALMIOPSIS CONCERT. At sunset on July 24, EF!er John Sirkis and at least one other fine musician will offer a free performance on behalf of the Kalmiopsis area. The concert will be at Oak Flat, outside Agness, OR, on the north edge of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. On July 25 at noon, John will offer a workshop on song-writing.**

*GULF OF MAINE BIOREGIONAL CONGRESS. Maine Earth First! is co-sponsoring the first Gulf of Maine Bioregional Congress, August 27-30, at Hidden Valley Camp in Montville, Maine. (Hidden Valley is a 300-acre camp on a lake.) The first two days will be devoted to workshops and networking. The third day, Saturday, will be the first of two days of actual bioregional congress, and also will feature a regional Earth First! gathering in the morning. The congress will attempt to create a bioregional "platform," working for the health of the region. Hopefully, this will reflect a strong Earth First! viewpoint. The congress and gathering will continue into Sunday. There will be cultural events in the evenings, information booths, good food, and plenty of time for informal talking, swimming, etc. Registration money (or donations) *now* would help greatly. Please tell us if you are coming: Gulf of Maine, 61 Maine St., Brunswick, ME 04011 (729-5083). Send $65 for four days, meals and lodging included; or $20 per day. Please bring your own sleeping bags, towels, etc. Please leave pets at home. Tell us if you have special dietary or physical needs, and if you'd be willing to volunteer time for kitchen, childcare, etc. — Gary Lawless

*EF! GRIZZLY BEAR TASK FORCE BIKE-A-THON FOR THE BEARS. The GBTF, in conjunction with the Campaign for Yellowstone's Bears, plans this event for August 26-30. We will cycle from Grant Village in Yellowstone to Fishing Bridge, on to Park Headquarters at Mammoth, then north through Paradise Valley to Livingston and over Bozeman Pass to Bozeman, MT. Demonstrations and street theatre will occur at Grant, Fishing Bridge, and Mammoth, and possibly at Gallatin NF HQ in Bozeman. There will be leaflets to hand out and a press packet for the media. We'll camp at Bridge Bay, Indian Creek, and Pine Creek in the Absaroka Range. This is a good chance to tour Yellowstone, meet Griz supporters and help assure the survival of the Great Bear. For more info: Phil Knight, POB 6151, Bozeman, MT 59715 (406-587-3356).

*EF!NY? The *EF! Journal* is now available in New York City at the St. Marks Bookshop. EF!ers in the NYC area who wish to get organized should call Joe Onion at 212-674-3725.

*EF! ONTARIO? Anyone in the Toronto area that would like to help gather an Ontario Canada Earth First! group, contact Al Kahall, c/o 100 Russett Ave, Toronto, Ont. M6H 3M3 Canada.

*EARTH WALK, June-Sept., 1987. Pacific Cascade forest defenders will walk to educate people to realize our responsibility to develop attitudes in keeping with our changing world. The walk will focus on issues of the Pacific Cascade Bioregion, from the Siskiyous to the Kootenays. If interested in walking or local organizing, contact: (for OR) Lisa Fredrikson, 824 SW 10th, Corvallis, OR 97333 (503-754-9151); or (for WA & BC) Todd Kelly, 616 N State St, Tacoma, WA 98403 (206-627-6093). The walk is scheduled to begin June 6 in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness, and end Oct. 1 at Nanoose Bay, BC.

*RADIO FREE TURTLE ISLAND. Those who take their environmentalism without compromise will enjoy The Environment Show in northwestern California. Tune in KMUD (public

120 at Earth First! Appalachian Rendezvous

by Martha Slover

"Unbelievable." "Astonishing." I kept hearing these words at the First Annual Central Appalachian Rendezvous. Held along the Glady Fork in the Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia, May 15-17, the Rendezvous was immensely successful. On Saturday we counted 120 Earth First!ers, from seven states and the District of Columbia. States represented were Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Florida, and (hopefully soon-to-be) New Columbia.

By dark on Friday, there were many tents on both sides of Glady Fork. Credit goes to Rendezvous organizer Roland Knapp for getting us together Saturday morning for workshops, despite late-night revelry. Bob Mueller started the workshops with one on the Shenandoah Wilderness Proposal (Mabon 86). This was followed by discussions on local issues in and around our National Forests. Other activities included exploring the lush forest of central West Virginia, hiking to a stand of virgin hemlock and Red Spruce, eating ramps — a wild leek and local delicacy, and campfires.

As a result of our discussions we reached the following decisions:

*To develop an Eastern Earth First! to meet the needs of the East based on PAW (Preserve Appalachian Wilderness) but including many non-wilderness issues.

*To act in defense of our land; DC EF!ers on May 18 successfully protested at the Securities and Exchange Commission on behalf of the redwoods MAXXAM is clearcutting.

*To expand the Virginia newsletter into a Central Appalachian newsletter covering local concerns and actions. To receive this newsletter, call or write an EF! contact in the Central Appalachian area. The editor (me) is currently a nomad.

*To hold another regional Rendezvous in the fall.

Earth First! is rising in Appalachia!

Martha Slover is the editor of the Central Appalachian EF! newsletter. She is no longer an EF! contact due to lack of a permanent address.

radio) at 91.1 FM every Saturday from 10:30 to noon. The show does interviews and news clips, and wants yours. Mail to The Environment Show, c/o EPIC, Box 397, Garberville, CA 95440 (707-923-2931).

*BUILDING THE GREEN MOVEMENT: A National Conference for a New Politics; July 2-7, 1987; Hampshire College, Amherst, MA. The Committees of Correspondence have developed an impressive agenda of panel discussions and workshops which will feature most of the best known Green leaders in the US. If you can't reach Arizona for the RRR, consider attending this; or attend parts of both. For registration information, write: National Green Gathering Working Group, c/o New England CoC, POB 703, White River Junction, VT 05001.

*GREEN ALTERNATIVE FAIR; Hampshire College; July 3-5. This Fair, taking place in conjunction with the Green Conference, seeks exhibitors. Write: Greg Reynolds, Green Alternative Fair, Oberg Rd, Colchester, CT 06415.

*MERRYMEET FESTIVAL; Sep. 4-7; Covenant of the Goddess' annual festival for Wiccans and Pagans; San Francisco area. Contact: MerryMeet Festival, c/o Covenant of the Goddess, Box 1226, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Editors' notes

Art requests that no more poems be submitted until 1988, so as to enable him use the bounty he has in hand. He does, however, need small graphics. We in Tucson, too, feel compelled to warn you writers that we receive far more written material than we can print. Thus we urge those of you who submit writings to us to eschew surplusage in your verbiage and be understanding if we cannot print your article or if we condense it.

We suggest that the priority letters requested in this issue are those concerning the following issues: Two Forks Damn, Humboldt County old growth, and Kalmiopsis.

Colorado Rendezvous

by Luke and Kathy

The Moabites had the easy ride to the first annual Four Corners Rendezvous, sponsored (but of course not organized) by Colorado Earth First!. The Dolores River Canyon is just over the hill (the La Sal Mountains) from the city of the brain-damaged uranium miners. Colorado Front Rangers, New Mexicans, and an Arizonan had long journeys to spend Memorial Weekend on the edge of the Colorado Plateau.

We camped on the edge of the BLM's Dolores River Canyon Wilderness Study Area. The canyon winds down between spectacular sandstone walls, featuring lonely side valleys and rapids which are popular with river rats. This area is better known than the other WSAs in the Resource Area, which have not been recommended for Wilderness by the agency.

The rendezvous site was chosen partly because of a remarkable feature of the industrial plutocracy which greets visitors. A Bureau of Reclamation experimental injection well is being sunk on the river bank, treating hikers to tortured metallic shrieks which reverberate against the cliffs. The project is a result of a salinity control treaty with Mexico to abate salt loading in the Colorado. Brine which enters the river from massive salt layers below the Paradox Valley is to be pumped at tremendous pressure into seams more than 14,000 feet underground. Successful results would lead to further such intrusion in the area.

A genial BLM river ranger informed us that the drill rig was hung up at 10,000 feet and had lost equipment due to unexpected movement in fluid layers at that depth. Later, around our campfire we howled encouragement for Earth's resistance to this obscene penetration. In our sweat lodge we summoned forth energy with which we hope to join in our land's resistance to the dead-spirit-beings. Let us fight for a wild Colorado Plateau!

Colorado Earth First! members are now dispersing for wilderness battles and sojourns. Late summer and fall events will include weekly field trips to our proposed new Wilderness Areas, action against Two Forks dam, action against the regressive Colorado legislature for its complicity with corporate polluters, and the Campaign for Yellowstone's Bears' bike-a-thon in Yellowstone, August 26-31.

JOHN SEED ROAD SHOW

by Roger Featherstone

The Midwest John Seed Road Show is soon to begin an extensive tour in the Midwest and near West. It is too early to know where in each city we will be, so contact the number for your area from the schedule below. The show will feature the fantastic Australian rainforest movie "Earth First!," which John Seed co-produced. John will do a deep ecology rave including poems and music. His son and another youngster will also perform music. Mike Roselle and Barbara Dugelby will talk about rainforest destruction closer to this continent and will discuss the Burger King connection. Roger Featherstone will be MC and road manager. Cecilia Ostrow will join the show starting in Albuquerque. Other notable people may be part of the show, so check with your nearest show contact. Admission prices will be $2 for most shows. By the time you read this, we will have toured the Northwest. The following is our tentative schedule of shows and contacts:

***July 15; Albuquerque; Dan Moore, 1416D Vassar NE, Alb., NM 87106 (505-265-7990). Show will be in Anthropology Bldg, Rm 108, U of NM, 7:30 PM.**

***July 16; Boulder; Roz McClellan, U of CO, Campus Box 207, Boulder, CO 80309 (303-492-8309). Show will be in Duane Physics Bldg G020, U of CO, 7:30.**

***July 19; Minneapolis; Chuck Varani, 355 Bates, St. Paul, MN 55106 (612-771-7920)**

***July 20; LaCrosse, WI; Ken Maly, Rt.4 Box 138, Winona MN 55987 (507-643-6223). Show will be in Cartwright Center, Rm 337, UW campus, 7:30.**

***July 21; Steven's Point; Hank Bruse, 235 Travis Dr, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 (715-423-5636). Show will be on UW Stevens Point campus.**

***July 22; Madison; Bob Kaspar, 305 N Sixth St, Madison, WI 53704 (608-241-9426). Show will be at State Historical Society Auditorium, 816 State St, 6:30.**

***July 23; Milwaukee; Prashant Nayak, 6448 N Shasta, Milwaukee, WI 53209 (414-464-8594). Show will be in UW Milwaukee Student Union.**

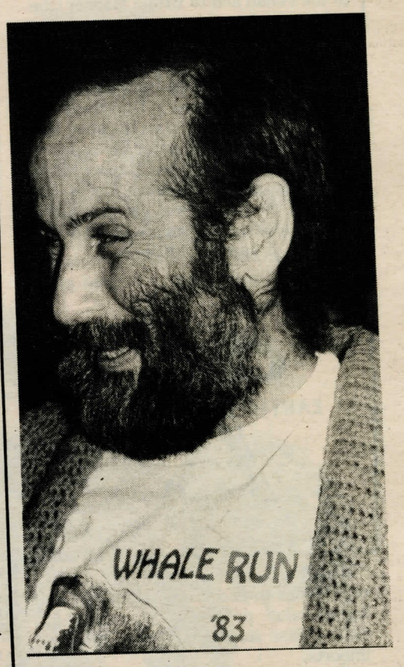
***July 24; Chicago; Rich Huttle, 21 W 020 Woodview Dr, Itasca, IL 60143 (312-250-0517). Show will be in Chicago Academy of Sciences, 2001 N Clark St, 8PM; $3.**

***July 26; Springfield; Sue Skidmore, 1364 S Plaza, Springfield, MO 65804 (417-882-2947). Show will be in Temple Hall Auditorium II, Southwest MO State U, 901 S National; 7:30.**

***July 28; Houston; Barb Dugelby, POB 7292, University Station, Austin, TX 78713 (512-467-1404)**

***July 29; Austin; Barb Dugelby**

***July 31; Tucson; Ned Powell, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703 (602-622-1371)**



John Seed.

Photo by Angela Genino.

Council of All Beings

by John Seed

A Council of All Beings was held for three days and nights over the summer solstice by the Evans River in northern New South Wales, Australia. Twenty-five adults and 12 children participated in a series of rituals aimed at creating empathy with non-human nature, realizing our kinship with all life, and reducing the sense of isolation that modern humans feel.

As long as we feel ourselves to be separate egos, our actions on behalf of nature, stemming from a sense of altruism or moral duty, lack power and conviction. Once we realize the illusoriness of that separation, when our "self" deepens and we realise that nature is no other than our innermost being, then our actions in defense of nature take on the urgency and authenticity of self-defense.

Professor Arne Naess, the Norwegian philosopher who coined the term "deep ecology," recently pointed out: "Altruism implies that *ego* sacrifices its interests in favour of the other, the *alter*. The motivation is primarily that of duty: it is said that we *ought* to love others as strongly as we love ourself.

"It is unfortunately very limited what mankind is capable to love from mere duty or, more generally, from moral exhortation... Unhappily, the extensive moralising within environmentalism has given the public the false impression that we primarily ask them to sacrifice to show more responsibility, more concern, better morals. As I see it we need the immeasurable variety of sources of joy opened through increased sensitivity towards the richness and diversity of life. . .

"Part of the joy stems from the consciousness of our intimate relation to something bigger than our ego, something which has endured for millions of years. . . . How is this to be brought about? It is more a question of community therapy than community science: healing our relations to a widest community, that of all living beings."

The Council of All Beings and other rituals being developed by the Rainforest Information Centre are an attempt to answer this question. The Council of All Beings originated from discussions between Dr. Joanna Macy and the author on the need for a synthesis between deep ecology on the one hand and despair and empowerment work on the other.

Each participant spends time alone in the bush seeking a vision of an animal, plant, river, mountain, ecosystem or other natural entity to give voice to at the Council meetings. Then we construct masks to represent our totem. Exercises and guided meditations help us shed our exclusively human identification.

The central ritual is based on Dr. Macy's despair ritual. The assembled Beings wail and sob out about what is happening to our planet. Many participants report that increased clarity, empathy and commitment follow their involvement.

Anyone wishing to participate in a Council of All Beings, or to convene such a workshop in their area, is invited to write to the Rainforest Information Centre, Box 368, Lismore 2480, NSW, Australia.

John Seed coordinates the Rainforest Information Centre and EF! Australia. He is presently part of an EF! roadshow touring the Midwest, and will attend the RRR, where we hope he and Joanna Macy will lead a Council.

International

Tropical Timber

by FOE - UK

A Friends of the Earth International/ World Wildlife Fund report, "A Hard Wood Story: Europe's Involvement in the Tropical Timber Trade," published 16th March, calls for immediate action by the European tropical timber trade and member states of the European Economic Community to change discriminatory trade and aid policies which encourage the destruction of tropical moist forests. FOE organisations throughout Europe — particularly in the UK, Italy, France, Holland and Belgium — will launch a consumer and political lobbying campaign to implement the recommendations of the report.

The report shows that: 1) European demand for tropical timber for industrial and domestic purposes, 2) EEC tariffs on tropical hardwood imports, and 3) the activities of European logging companies all contribute to the destruction of tropical forests in West Africa and Southeast Asia — the two regions most badly affected [by European and Japanese imports]. The report also shows what can be done by European governments, timber traders and consumers to support the sustainable management and protection of these forests.

"A Hard Wood Story" provides clear evidence that:

*Commercial logging is the second most important cause of tropical deforestation, causing the loss of 5 million hectares (12.5 million acres) annually.

*Europe uses 40% of the global trade in tropical hardwoods by volume, and is the second largest consumer in the world (ranking close to Japan's 48%).

*The forests of 4 of the EEC's 5 main suppliers of tropical hardwoods (Malaysia, the Philippines, the Ivory Coast and Gabon) are classified by the World Bank as being in a "critical" condition due to commercial loggers.

*For every 10 trees logged only 1 is replanted.

*Britain is the largest consumer of tropical hardwood products in the EEC.

*Most European tropical timber imports are used for building and joinery, plywoods, furniture, and packaging. In 1984, Britain imported 1.42 million doors from tropical countries.

*Although much wood is used domestically by tropical countries, the EEC and Japan exert a disproportionate influence over the management of tropical forests through their economic policies and the activities of their logging and processing companies. Europe's main impact is on West African forests, where French, German and Dutch companies are heavily involved.

The European Commission recently accepted that a Code of Conduct for timber traders and active support for the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) are essential first steps, both long held objectives of the FOE Tropical Forest Campaign.

Recommendations for European governments and the timber trade include:

*Implement a Code of Conduct and licensing system, to ensure that all tropical timber imports originate from ecologically sound concessions.

*List tree species endangered by commercial logging (e.g. certain types of mahogany) under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species to regulate and if necessary prohibit trade.

*Create a Tropical Forest Fund for regeneration in degraded forest areas; for demarcating and protecting threatened forests of high biological importance; and for developing sustainable timber operations. Governments, the timber industry and development aid institutions in Europe and the North would be the main contributors.

*Help develop the environmental provisions of the ITTO and Lome Conventions.

*Change restrictive quota and tariff regulations to encourage the import of higher-value processed timber products; a first step would be to ban log imports.

For more information, contact: Charles Secrett, Friends of the Earth, 377 City Rd, London, EC1 England.

SAVE THE PENAN

by John Seed

Madelaine Dunphy's article in World Rainforest Report #9 (in Beltane 87 *EF!*) described the struggle for life of the Penan tribe of Sarawak on the island of Borneo. The Penan are the last viable nomadic hunter-gatherers in Southeast Asia. They are fighting desperately for their forests and culture and their very lives.

For the last two months, several hundred Penan have been blockading the logging operations that threaten the last of their forests. Due to the unprecedented international public attention to the issue, there have as yet been no repressive reprisals from the government.

However, there are hundreds of millions of dollars at stake. Malaysia is the largest exporter of tropical timbers in the world. The corrupt state government hands out logging concessions to politicians and their wives, and the traditional owners are not even consulted. The first the Penan know of what's happening is when they hear the 'dozers.

"The blockades are made in the form of human barricades which comprise men, women and children and also by wooden barricades by putting up fence and or logs across the roads." (Sahabat Alam Malaysia)

The Rainforest Information Centre has sent hundreds of petitions to Malaysian authorities and, as a result of this and letters from around the world, presently in Sarawak the Penan are generally seen as having the right to blockade despite the illegality of this action. This blockade must succeed! Send letters and petitions — opposing logging in uncut Malaysian rainforest and more specifically in the Penan's territory in the Limbang and Baram Districts — to the following: 1. Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister, Prime Minister's Dept., Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. 2. Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patringgi, Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud, Chief Minister of Sarawak, Petra Jaya, Kuching. 3. Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Baji Bukjan Nor, State Secretary, Petra Jaya, Kuching. Send copies of your letters and petitions to newspapers and news agencies and to: Sahabat Alam Malaysia, Indigenous Peoples Network, POB 216, Marudi, 98050 Baram, 4th Division, Sarawak, Malaysia. A half-ounce letter airmail costs 44 cents.

We have been collecting money in Australia and sending it via travelers to the Penan and to Bruno Manser (the refugee artist who is seeking to bring world attention to the plight of the Penan). Concerned persons may send money to the Penan via Rainforest Information Centre (address in Directory). We have also started a film on the issue and our crew was able to enter the country, film the Penan, interview Manser (after a five-day journey to reach him in the heart of the jungle) and get out safely. We are looking for people to invest in the film to help us complete it.

Penan warriors. Photo by Andy Frome.

Earth First! Scotland

by Grant Collie

After several months of making the name of Earth First! known in Scotland, we organised a major Anti-Nuclear Rally in Edinburgh for 25th April to commemorate the anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. With the Scottish Green Party and Faslane Peace Camp, we arranged a series of speakers and local bands. The amazing hot sun led to a crowd of over 4000 attending the event. Speakers covered nuclear issues — from Namibian uranium mining, through processing, to the final uses in power stations and warheads.

The crowd, after listening to the speakers, turned the Rally into a massive party, with five bands giving their all. One of the bands, Swamptrash, ended the rally and led a tour of Edinburgh's ale houses, carrying the message from the rally — NUCLEAR POWER AND WEAPONRY ARE NOT WANTED IN SCOTLAND!

Since the Rally, two sites in the Lothian area have been suggested as prospective dump sites for low and intermediate radioactive waste. One is the Isle of May in the Firth of Forth. This small island is a Nature Reserve, managed by the Nature Conservancy Council (the Government's conservation "watchdog"), which is internationally renowned for its breeding colonies of Gannets and Puffins. Through four "safe" Conservative seats in England, the local populace managed, against all odds, to stop their areas becoming dump sites. The result of their courageous stand is that areas all over Scotland will become "favourites" for dump sites. Many areas in the Highlands and Islands are threatened by the nuclear industry's inability to deal with the monster it has created.

Grant Collie is Earth First's contact and leader in Scotland.

New Zealand Trashes Beech Forests

by the Southern Cross

Thanks to our Labour government, most people know that New Zealand is "Nuclear Weapon Free." While it may seem to you like a turning point in a government's attitude toward the global environment, it seems to one living in Aotearoa like political shadow boxing to catch votes for another three years. Apart from the indifferent reaction of the Labour government toward establishment of an irradiation facility using cobalt 60 from a Canadian nuclear power plant, and the "secret" agreement to keep the American supply base for McMurdo sound in Christchurch, we face a renewed drive to destroy our virgin rainforest.

It's called the beech management scheme. The native forest in those areas allocated for management is predominantly hardbeech. The newly created department of conservation is condemning 70,000-80,000 hectares of beech. Management has never been successful for hardbeech due to unpredictable seed shedding characteristics, slow growth and therefore long rotation periods. Even trial plots with more regular seeders and faster growing varieties like red or silver beech have proven unsuccessful. For once we agree with the New Zealand Freddies — who have expressed doubt about the economic viability of the scheme!

Any logging of the beech will lead to the destruction of those ecosystems, and later to disastrous floods — New Zealand receives 120 inches of rain annually! New Zealand native virgin forest is chipped (not turned into high quality lumber, a process which does at least create jobs), sent to Japan, turned into paper, and finally buried in one of Tokyo's dumps. Ten years of employment for 250 people will destroy forest which could earn more money and create more jobs as a wilderness area for eternity.

So come "down under" and spend the summer in Aotearoa helping us save "the land under the white cloud" from industrialization!

Driftnet Destruction in the North Pacific

by Scott Trimingham

One of the most significant marine ecological disasters of our time is happening now in the North Pacific. Every summer, nearly 1700 fishing boats (most Japanese, some Taiwanese and Korean) each lay down at least one monofilament plastic driftnet per day and retrieve it the following day. The nets are 9 to 30 miles long and about 30 feet deep. The US government estimates that the fleet sets 21,000 miles of net per day — nearly enough to circle the globe.

The driftnets are used to catch salmon, squid, and billfish, but they catch much more. They catch anything that comes in contact with the nets, including sea birds attracted to the fish struggling in the nets. One million sea birds are drowned in the nets each year as well as 50,000 Dall's Porpoises and 50,000 Northern Fur Seals. Mortality due to entanglement is suspected of being the chief cause of the continuing decline of the Fur Seal population. At the present rate of decline, the current population would be reduced by 50% within the next decade. Many believe that even these estimates are low.

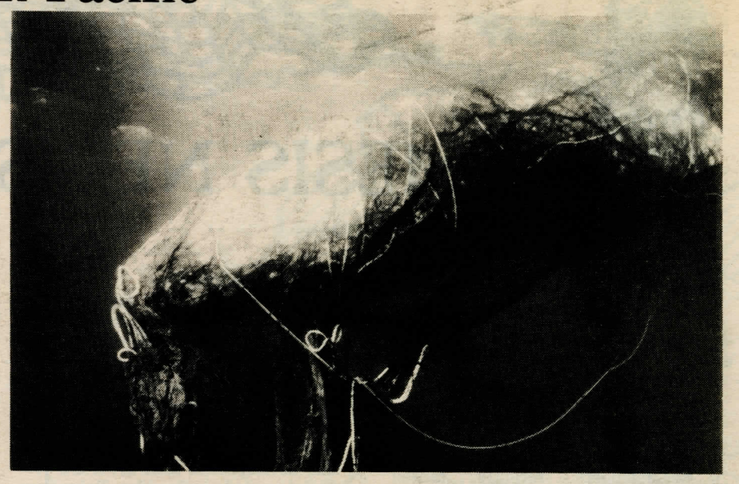
Eighteen of the 21 species of birds being killed in the driftnets are covered by an agreement between the US and Japan, the Convention for the Protection of Migratory Birds in Danger of Extinction and Their Environment. The Japanese are clearly violating this agreement.

The entangled Walrus, whales, seals, and birds are all considered an "incidental kill" and are discarded by the fishermen. In addition, many fish are caught and killed in the nets only to fall out and sink to the bottom. Although driftnet fishing is a relatively inexpensive way to fish, it is also extremely wasteful. It is so destructive that Japan has outlawed it in its own waters.

Lost or discarded driftnets are called "ghost nets." The US Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation estimates that 600 miles of net are left to float in the North Pacific each year. US government personnel in surveillance aircraft have observed the abandonment of entire driftnets by fleeing vessels that had been fishing illegally in restricted waters. The nets, with floats and weights intact but identifying markers and radio beacons removed, are left to fish relentlessly.

Canada recently announced that they secretly tested driftnet fishing in waters off British Columbia last year. During the experiment, using only three vessels, they caught six whales, 33 Dall's Porpoises, 412 sea birds, 32,338 Blue Sharks, 978 Salmon Sharks and 19,253 Pomfret (a large blunt headed fish). These were all considered an "incidental kill."

Something must be done to halt this destruction. Senate Bill 2611, which would have required monitoring of the effects of the nets and provided protective measures, was recently defeated. Another bill similar to SB2611 is now being put up for a vote. We at Sea Shepherd have announced our intentions to protest the use of the nets this year at the site of the killing. We will rescue any animals still alive by pulling up the nets, and document evidence of the destruction for presentation to Congress. The North Pacific ecosystem cannot sustain these devastating nets.



Gray Whale entangled in net. Photo by Bob Talbot.

Scott Trimingham is a leader of Sea Shepherd Conservation Society in California.

Tucson Demonstrates for Rainforest

by Millipede

On May 12 at noon, 40 impassioned Earth First!ers and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) demonstrated at one of Tucson's busiest Burger Kings. We chanted, displayed a mural, passed out flyers, and waved aloft a four-foot-wide paper-mache hamburger filled with foliage and (stuffed) rainforest critters. Costumes were out in force: trees, a toucan, gorilla, frog, fly, and butterfly.

We gained the attention of many passersby — and the manager, who immediately called the police. Two Greek-geek UA students heckled us, but couldn't match our passion. (I awoke the next morning with no voice.) We appeared on the news programs of two stations that evening; and the next morning the Food section of the *Arizona Daily Star* showed an irate gorilla holding a sign showing a parrot and the words POLLY WANTS A HABITAT.

The mural is one we made for the World Bank protest last September. Painted by Gena Trott (with the help of Helen Wilson, Roger Featherstone, and myself), it shows a rainforest on one side, wasteland on the other, and in the middle, a giant snake facing a bulldozer.

Not having organized a demo before, I appreciated the advice of Ned Powell and the help of an EF! sympathizer from PETA who had been ordered by a court (in punishment for her arrest along with 16 other PETA women for their CD action on World Lab Animal Day) to do community service for a nonprofit organization — which the EF! Foundation is.

Millipede is a Tucson artist, who led and dramatized our protest with shouts heard round the block and by creating the heaviest hamburger ever hoisted by Ed Abbey.

Whopper Stopper demo in Chico, CA. Photo by Brad Richards.

Whopper Stopper Month Strikes Again —and Continues . . .

by Karen Pickett

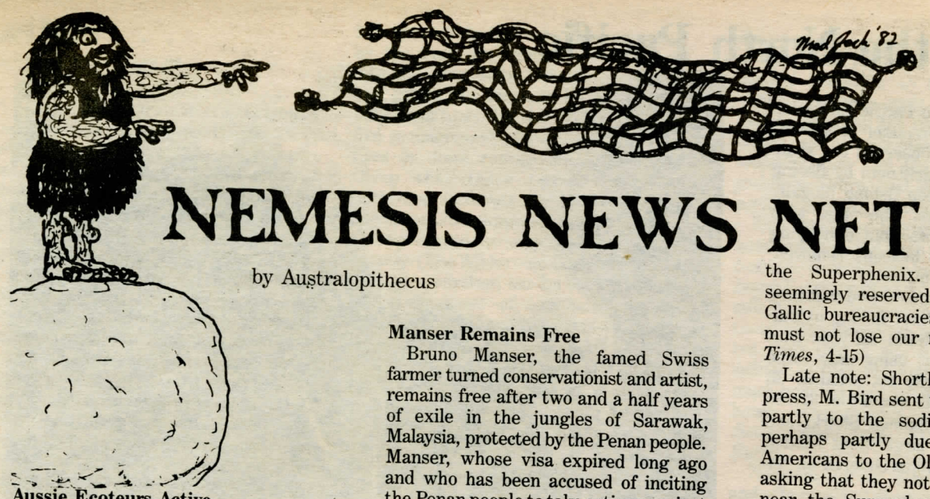
The article in the Beltane issue and letters sent by Bay Area Earth First! brought enthusiastic responses from EF!ers throughout the US and beyond. We know of Whopper Stopper month demos in several states, and Burger King headquarters has heard via letters from many people opposed to rainforest destruction. The flood of letters is being aided by the Rainforest Action Network's recent mailing with postcards included. This round of BK demonstrations is gaining good media coverage, and along with the letters is keeping BK on its toes. Indeed, a spokesperson for the Burger King Corporation told the press that the company has formed a task force to study the relationship between beef imported from Central America and the clearing of tropical rainforests there. (BK uses 335 million pounds of beef annually at over 5000 outlets in 29 countries.) In your letters to BK headquarters, ask about this "study" and ask to be informed (as an interested consumer) of its conclusions.

If you participated in Whopper Stopper month in any way, please let Bay Area EF! know. We will report on the demos in the next issue. (See story on Arizona EF! demo, this issue.) Send reports of activities and plans, and feedback, and pictures to BAEF!

If you can contribute to our Burger King boycott, contact us. We can send you a petition and rainforest beef connection fact sheet, and other materials. Distribute this petition wherever you can! We will circulate it for at least the next year, or until BK stops using rainforest beef. We also have Whopper Stopper/Boycott Burger King bumper stickers for groups working on the issue to use as a fundraiser. In quantity (20 or more), we can sell them to EF! groups for 40 cents each plus postage of $1.25 per 20. You can sell them for a dollar or more or distribute them however you wish. For single copies, send $1 to BAEF!

WHERE TO WRITE: Burger King Public Relations, POB 520783, Miami, FL 33152.

BAY AREA EF!, POB 83, Canyon, CA 94516. Please send donations. Our efforts are volunteer and we print and pay postage with donations.



NEMESIS NEWS NET

by Australopithecus

Aussie Ecoteurs Active

Eco-defenders recently caused $60,000 of damage to logging machinery in Australia's Otways Forests. One contractor admitted that he would close his operation, as the engines in his bulldozer had been destroyed by a mystery chemical. Meanwhile, in East Gippsland forests, a defender(s) has damaged 'dozers and graders by tampering with their free oil changes. (*The Quill*, publication of Wildlife Protection Agency, POB 61, Collins St., Victoria, 3000 Australia)

Animal Defender Torches Himself

Animal rights activist Robert Blackman of Australia, making a dramatic gesture in hopes of awakening people to the tragedy of animal abuse, doused himself with petrol in front of crowds at the Colchester cattle market and lit a match. His startling self-immolation on behalf of animals was ignored by all but one newspaper. (*The Quill*)

Catalans Clog Keyholes

Catalan separatists in Spain used silicon to block keyholes on doors of 50 branches of a Barcelona bank that had enabled the city to win a bid to host the 1992 Olympics. Use of silicon is a clever variation of techniques described in *Ecodefense*.

Kansas May Adopt State Soil

Like nearly all states, Kansas has a state flower (sunflower), state tree (cottonwood), state animal (Buffalo), and state bird (Western Meadowlark). Soil scientist Orville Bidwell has proposed extending this state favorite status to a soil, in hopes of educating Kansans about the disastrous loss of their topsoils. Bidwell has launched a campaign to declare Harney silt loam as the state soil. (*Not Man Apart*, 3-4/87) Given the predilection of universities to name their sports teams after state mascots, it would be fitting for Kansas athletic teams to vie for the honor of being called the Marching Silt Loams or some variation thereof.

Disaster Plans Are Just That

Disaster evacuation plans for nuclear plants throughout the US are so flawed that even so conservative a newspaper as the *Wall Street Journal* has published information which speaks ill of nuclear plant officials. In one of the more unusual errors, during an evacuation drill in February 1986 for the Seabrook, New Hampshire, nuclear plant, a press release gave the wrong number to call for help. The number given was that of the Portsmouth Bank Savings and Loan. (*Northern Sun*, 1-87; publication of Northern Sun Alliance, 1519 E Franklin Ave, Mpls., MN 55404)

Are Whales Protesting?

Since April, 400 small unidentified whales have beached themselves and died on the coast of northeast Brazil. Concentrated near the fishing village Itacare — near Brazil's cocoa-growing region — the cause of the whales' actions remains a mystery. Scientists continue to be baffled by the tragedy of the thousands of cetaceans who have beached themselves throughout the world in recent years. However, Joao Sampaio, director of the Center of Environmental Resources of Bahia state, did finally voice a suspicion quietly held by some environmentalists for years. Sampaio noted, "The most likely hypothesis we have is a kind of collective suicides." (Earthtrust X Press)

Manser Remains Free

Bruno Manser, the famed Swiss farmer turned conservationist and artist, remains free after two and a half years of exile in the jungles of Sarawak, Malaysia, protected by the Penan people. Manser, whose visa expired long ago and who has been accused of inciting the Penan people to take actions against land developers in their area, has continued to elude authorities. Twice they caught him only to see him slip away, bounding into the jungle the first time, leaping into a river the second. In the latest event of this continuing saga (which apparently pits an environmentalist and an indigenous group against government officials and developers) Sarawak's Tourism Minister has offered to act as intermediary to facilitate Manser's return to Switzerland. The Malaysian government's determination to see this nomad removed from the jungles is curious. Is it that they fear the attention he is drawing to the destruction of Sarawak's forests?

Rangers Kill Poachers

Four poachers in Zimbabwe's Zambezi Valley wild animal sanctuary recently lost a gunfight to "paramilitary game rangers." In trying to save the Black Rhino, Zimbabwe rangers have killed 32 poachers since 1984.

The Saguaro...
Smushed Her Like A Bug

But Barbara Haider lived. After being impaled by a Saguaro, Haider, of Tucson, was treated for a broken jaw, legs, and pelvis, and punctures . . . and was discovered to be pregnant. The bizarre details of the accident remain suspiciously murky. (Saguaro Cacti in the Tucson area are being ravaged by land developers and perhaps by acid rain. Are they striking back?) It seems that Haider had been in a suburban following a pickup driven by her husband. Somehow, the pickup knocked a Saguaro atop the suburban. As the woman extricated herself from the vehicle, the Saguaro slid on top of her. Does that sound premeditated or what!? (*Arizona Daily Star*, 4-27-87)

French Nukes Malfunction

In April, two accidents at French nuclear facilities raised doubts among the French public about the safety of their nation's 44 nuclear plants (and 18 under construction), which provide 70% of France's electricity. The first accident forced a closure of Europe's largest nuclear fuel producing plant (West Europe's only commercial breeder reactor) — the enrichment plant at Tricastin. A leak of radioactive uranium hexachloride gas injured seven workers.

The day after France's state-owned nuclear industry, Atomic Energy Commissariat, closed the Tricastin plant (for one week), the head of the commissariat told reporters that investigators, a week after its discovery, still had not determined the cause of a sodium coolant leak at the Superphenix — the world's largest fast breeder reactor. Sodium is dangerous because it ignites on contact with air. This radioactive sodium leaked into an enclosure covered with nitrogen that prevented it from igniting. The May issue of the French environmental magazine, *Silence*, reported (to roughly translate): *The sodium is leaking out of a barrel used as a storage place when plutonium fuel is moved in and out of the reactor. If the barrel has to be replaced, the containment building must be broken. To do this safely, the plutonium fuel and 5500 tons of sodium must be removed from the reactor. Authorities have nowhere else to put the sodium while they repair the plant.* Over 25 tons of it leaked before investigators found this source. Faced with distraught trade unions and environmentalists, the French Industry Minister assured the public that there was no need to close the Superphenix. With intrepidity seemingly reserved for those high in Gallic bureaucracies, he noted, "We must not lose our nerve." (*New York Times*, 4-15)

Late note: Shortly before going to press, M. Bird sent us good news: Due partly to the sodium leak — and perhaps partly due to letters from Americans to the Olympics committee asking that they not site the Olympics near the Superphenix — the Superphenix has been closed at least until fall. We thank EF!ers who wrote to the committee in response to our article.

New Hampshire News

New Hampshire Earth First!er Granite Dome sends good news on the Sewalls Falls issue (see article in Eostar 87): A lawyer representing Rockefeller and Seward announced they will sell the development rights and forget the dam idea. He said changes in the tax laws and unexpectedly strong opposition are the reasons for canceling the plans. Earth First!ers should nevertheless carefully watch Interior Secretary Hodel and Assistant Secretary Horn, who appear to have committed misdeeds aimed at facilitating approval of such destructive proposals as the dam planned for Sewalls Falls. Representative John Dingle has been investigating the Interior Department, and he should be encouraged to continue. Meanwhile, researchers are studying why the return rate on Atlantic Salmon released fingerlings is so low (less than 1% compared to 5% for natural populations). Overcrowding during fish-raising and hormones in the feed are the suspected problems.

The biggest mainstream conservation story in the state is the new "Trust for NH Lands." Conservationists are now seeking funding in the state legislature to spend $50 million in the next five years to acquire new lands for protection from development. Although this is too little, it is a noble effort.

Experimenters Give Primates TVs

With the increasing effectiveness of animal rights groups and the recent passage, in the US Congress, of lab animal welfare legislation, Animal Care and Use Committees have been established at experimenting institutions throughout the US. Such committees and the labs they oversee are attempting to silence protests against lab animal experimentation by nominally improving living conditions for their captives. One of the more important labs, the Division of Laboratory Animal Resources at Duke University Medical Center, provides an interesting example of measures being taken ostensibly on behalf of the animals. To quote a Duke veterinarian, Duke "has realized the necessity of implementing behavioral and environmental enrichment programs for the laboratory primates. . ." To this end, Duke experimenters are trying to ease stress on the primates — each isolated in a tiny cage — by rotating TVs through the primate rooms. The Duke vet noted that five to ten minutes into a program, "baboons become quiet and gaze toward the television." (*Scientists Center Newsletter* 9(1)1987)

Our Lady Overlooks
Huge Open Pit Mine

Tourists in Montana are being afforded a new treat — Our Lady of the Rockies statue and postcards thereof. The postcards best describe this incredible monument: "OUR LADY OF THE ROCKIES, a 90 foot steel statue, overlooks the Berkley Pit, an open pit mine, in Butte, Montana. The non-denominational statue dedicated to all women, especially mothers, was constructed and is being maintained through volunteer help and donations. The project began December 29, 1979, and was completed December 20, 1985." One may suspect that some mothers will not be delighted to see motherhood and strip mining glorified together.

Spills Harm Pearl Harbor NWR

From March through May, a Chevron fuel pipeline spilled 550,000 gallons of fuels, including jet and diesel, in Hawaiian waters. The spills have contaminated the Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge, thereby killing Hawaiian Stilts and Hawaiian Ducks — both Endangered species. The stilts abandoned nine of their ten nests in the 25-acre Refuge; and both species have been harmed by clean-up crews walking through their habitat, as well as by the fuel. A delay in notifying wildlife officials of the most recent in a series of spills into Waiawa Spring — whose water is pumped into Pearl Harbor Refuge, may spell doom for Pearl Harbor's Hawaiian Duck population. The Fish and Wildlife Service could have quickly stopped the pumps had they been alerted to the crisis. Chevron and the Coast Guard should be condemned for the failure to report; Chevron had reported the spill as minor and said that it was cleaned up, while the Coast Guard did not meet its responsibility to report such coastal spills. (*Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, 5-15)

Sea Lion Dunks Fisherman

In April, a wrathful Sea Lion in Kodiak Harbor leaped to the deck of a 58-foot (over)fishing boat, seized a 220-pound man, dragged him deep under water, bit him on the buttocks, and then allowed him to resurface — thoroughly humiliated. Harbor master Corky McCorkle (!) later noted, "these animals have become very bold..." (*Miami Herald*, 4-26-87)

Letters

US representatives are at US House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515; US senators at US Senate, DC 20510.

*Yielding to pressure from trappers and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has opened sections of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge to trapping of Lynx. Write a letter of protest, urging full protection for Kenai's dwindling population of Lynx, to: Robert Gilmore, Alaska Regional Director, USFWS, 1011 E Tudor Rd, Anchorage, AK 99503; or call his office at 614-466-3526. (*Animals Agenda*, 4-87)

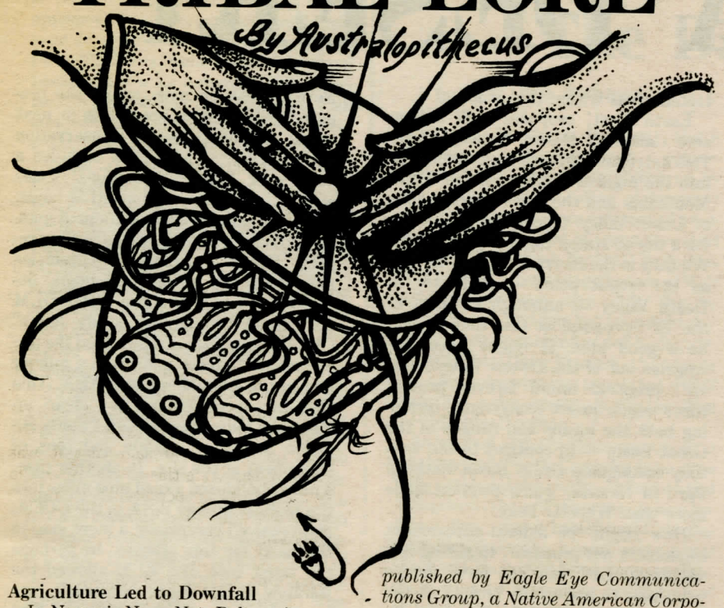
*Grays Harbor, on Washington's coast between the Willipa Hills and Olympic National Park, contains endangered areas known as Bowerman Basin and nearby Point New which host millions of migratory shorebirds each spring and Peregrine Falcons which feed on these birds. Unfortunately, these estuarine areas are owned by the Port of Grays Harbor, which entity has sought to pave over part of the estuary. The paving was stopped, under provisions of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Plan, but in 1985 the Port was caught spraying herbicides in this sensitive habitat. Bowerman Basin and Pt. New will remain in peril until they are declared a National Wildlife Refuge. Write US representatives Al Swift, Don Bonker, John Miller and Mike Lowry; and US senators Dan Evans and Brock Adams, urging them to support such designation. (*Not Man Apart*, 3-4/87)

*Millions of kangaroos and wallabies are slaughtered each year in what has become the largest commercial wild animal slaughter on land. These marsupial victims are sold for running shoe leather, pet food, decorative items; or are simply killed as agricultural "pests." The Red, Eastern Gray, and Western Gray Kangaroos — the three most hunted roos — have been listed since 1974 as Threatened under the US Endangered Species Act. However, soon after Reagan took office, the ban on roo imports into the US was lifted. Representative Robert Mrazek (D-NY) has reintroduced a bill (HR779) to reinstate the ban. Please urge representatives to support HR779, and urge senators to sponsor equivalent legislation. Request hearings on the ill practice of importing kangaroo parts.

*California activists are supporting a statewide initiative that would provide $120 million to purchase and protect wildlife habitat in California. To get the initiative placed on the ballot, 600,000 signatures must be collected in the 150 days following the release of the initiative petition on June 15. For information, write: Richard Spotts, Defenders of Wildlife, 4604 Rosedale Way, Sacramento, 95822; or Bill Yeates, Mtn. Lion Coalition, POB 1896, Sacramento, 95809.

TRIBAL LORE

By Australopithecus



Agriculture Led to Downfall

In Nemesis News Net, Beltane issue, we reported that two researchers have found evidence that agriculture arose ten millennia ago as a result of humans' desire for crops to produce beer. Following our report of this, Granite Dome sent us the following summary presenting the more common hypothesis on this subject: In the May 1987 issue of *Discovery*, Jared Diamond, a UCLA physiology teacher, explains the basis for the theory that the adoption of agriculture over a hunting/gathering lifestyle was the worst mistake ancient humans made. Citing archeological evidence, Diamond explains that the rise of epidemic diseases, nutritional degradation, and loss of leisure time resulted from the shift to agriculture. Furthermore, the social changes that followed may have meant a loss of equality between the sexes and encouraged growth of wealthy classes who could survive on the material production of others. In essence, Diamond speculates, hunter-gatherers may have been forced into agriculture by growth in populations and the need for more food (though of inferior nutritional value) rather than voluntarily making the switch to agriculture. "Hunter-gatherers practiced the most successful and longest-lasting lifestyle in human history. In contrast, we're still struggling with the mess into which agriculture has tumbled us, and it's unclear whether we can solve it."

Bear Numbers Still Falling

The Black Bear population in the Southern Appalachians is in serious jeopardy. Black Bear experts Dr. Pelton of UT and Dr. Powell of NC State's Pisgah Bear Project have both conducted research that shows that the species is being extirpated from the mountains. The 1986 drought compounded the crisis by shrinking the amount of hard mast such as acorns and hickory nuts, staples in the bears' autumn diet. This mast shortage may have caused 200-300 bear cubs in the region to starve this winter. The lack of food, coupled with increasing numbers of exotic wild boar who compete with bears for food, causes the bears to roam further in search of food, often outside the sanctuaries and Smokies Park, where they are supposedly protected. This increased travel makes them more vulnerable to poaching and "legal" hunting. Wildlife biologist Gordon Warburton noted that the numbers of bears killed "cast doubt on the ability of the Pisgah Bear Sanctuary to maintain an effective breeding nucleus." In 1981-82, 60% of the bears under study there were killed; 75% of those killed were females. Bear Action Network urges those concerned about the plight of the North Carolina's largest wild mammal to write to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, 512 N Salisbury St., Raleigh, NC 27611, to call for an immediate moratorium on bear hunting. For information, contact Paul Gallimore, BAN, Rt. 2 Box 132, Leicester, NC 28748 (704-683-3662).

Seaweed Forest Dying

The following news item is reprinted from a fine new journal titled DAYBREAK. This is "a monthly newspaper published by Eagle Eye Communications Group, a Native American Corporation. Profits from DAYBREAK will be donated to the Daybreak foundation, which will award grants to self-empowerment projects that benefit Native American communities." To subscribe, write: DAYBREAK, POB 98, Highland, MD 20777-0098. Donations are needed.

The "seaweed forest" that provides fertile spawning grounds for herring and other marine life along a 13,166-mile coastline from Norway to the Soviet Union is dying rapidly. The impending ecological disaster has already killed about half of the seaweed between the town of Alesund in Central Norway and Norway's Arctic border with the Soviets, according to the Ministry for the Environment.

Experts are pointing to hydroelectric power dams along Norway's rivers. They say reduction of fresh water flow by the dams has led to significant increases in salt content in the coastal waters, killing the seaweed and destroying huge areas on the spawning grounds.

Norwegian people along the seacoast, who depend on the fishing industry, now find their livelihood threatened. A further threat to the seaweed comes from North Sea pollution, according to Sissel Ronbeck, Environment Minister of Norway.

Write to Close Fishing Bridge

The following is from the newsletter of Campaign for Yellowstone's Bears (POB 416, Boulder, CO 80306):

In July, the Park Service must formally consider citizens' comments regarding the development at Fishing Bridge, Yellowstone National Park. This is when a "draft environmental impact statement" (DEIS) on the development is scheduled to be released. Grizzly Bear supporters should write in mid-July to the superintendent of Yellowstone Park (POB 168, Yellowstone NP, WY 82190) requesting that: 1) the Park Service remove facilities from the Fishing Bridge area; 2) the area be fully restored to its natural condition; 3) no new developments be allowed in Yellowstone Park; 4) the Park Service phase out most development at Lake and Bridge Bay. Request that your comments be made part of the official DEIS record on Fishing Bridge.

ALF Liberates Thousands

The following pieces are condensed from *International Rescue*, the newsletter of the Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group. They give an indication of the impressive determination of the Animal Liberation Front. ALF now has decentralized groups in several West European nations, Australia, Canada, and the US. They are perhaps strongest in England, where their raids have resulted in the liberation of thousands of animals and the closing of major exploitative portions of several institutions (e.g. department stores ceasing to sell furs after seeing their fur coats sabotaged and slogans painted throughout their stores).

The Supporters Group is for people who . . . do not wish to take part in direct action. The SG helps arrested activists with fines and legal expenses, assists those imprisoned, gives talks about ALF...

The Animal Liberation Front takes direct action against all forms of animal abuse. This action falls basically into two categories: 1) The rescue or liberation of animals from premises to save them from persecution. Such animals are usually taken to good homes where they will be properly cared for. Animals are only released into the wild if they have a reasonable chance of survival. 2) Damage to property or premises connected with animal abuse. This is done to disrupt the persecution of animals and to cause financial loss to the animal abusers so as to reduce the money they are able to invest in animal abuse, to force them out of business, or to encourage them to mend their ways. Often both types of action take place during the same raid.

It is against ALF policy to use serious personal violence against anybody. In other words, in the course of an action it would be OK to restrain somebody or perhaps tie them up but not acceptable to punch them. The exception to this is self-defense. If attacked, ALF activists are entitled to defend themselves using reasonable methods. If possible, activists carry out raids in such a way as to avoid confrontation with the opposition.

FUR FARM RAIDED

At 2 AM on the 15th July, Sussex ALF raided "Buckfold Rabbits" fur farm, West Sussex. Fifteen rabbits were rescued. On the 29th July the activists returned to the farm to carry out an arson attack.

We had paid the farm three previous visits to learn our way around, decide the best way of entering the building and establish a suitable place to park our van. We parked our vehicle in the field opposite the entrance to the farm, taking care to leave it out of view of passing cars. Carrying our boxes and tools, we cut through a barbed wire fence. We were unable to cut the padlock on the door of the battery with our boltcutters due to the position of the lock. However, we were able to force open the back door of the shed with a crowbar, the door being bolted from the inside.

. . . Inside the battery we were appalled by what we saw. The heat and stench were unbearable; dead rabbits were lying on the wire floors of their cages. . . . We began putting the creatures into boxes. . . . We took photos of the place.

Following our successful raid, we carried out a more serious attack. On 29th July, at 12:45 AM, we returned to the farm. A padlock on an empty barn (which was a safe distance from other parts of the farm) was cut and the building was checked for any animals that may have been living in it (mice, etc.). Petrol was then thrown over the walls and stacks of wood and building materials that were scattered about. The fire was lit. The petrol went up instantly, almost taking two activists with it. Running for our vehicle we were sure that the fire was seen for miles — the flames licking through the roof of the barn. Thankfully we withdrew safely from the area.

We've realised our mistake. We should have used paraffin. Petrol burns too quickly and when being poured gives off vapour which can ignite. Next time we'll know better.

Meanwhile, animal liberation actions are finally being seen in the US. Farm Sanctuary recently released information about the Farm Freedom Fighters, who, last April 17, with the Easter Bunny (cops would hesitate to club the Easter Bunny!), liberated 40 hens from a Pennsylvania battery egg operation. Farm Sanctuary, a non-profit group dedicated to ending factory farming, urges persons to contribute to their adopt-a-farm-animal program and directly save the life of an animal. Contact Farm Sanctuary (POB 37, Rockland, DE 19732; 302-654-9026) for information on boycott programs, alternatives to factory farm products, or legislative efforts. In another action which has received far less attention than it merits, California ALF activists burned down a nearly finished UC Davis farm animal research lab, causing $3.5 million of damages and delaying completion for at least a year!

Rocky Flats Protest Scheduled

Colorado activists, including veterans of last summer's Great Peace March, are organizing a direct action campaign at the most vulnerable link in the nuclear weapons production chain — the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant, 16 miles west of Denver. Rocky Flats is the only place in the US where plutonium triggers — the explosive component without which a nuclear bomb can't work — are made. Researchers estimate that Rocky Flats manufactures from three to ten triggers a day. With Reagan's arms build-up, production has increased greatly. Weapons-grade plutonium is shipped to Rocky Flats from Hanford, Washington, and Savannah River, Georgia; the completed trigger is then shipped for final assembly to the Pantex plant in Amarillo, Texas. Run by Rockwell International for the US Department of Energy, Rocky Flats is guarded by a para-military force larger than the Colorado National Guard. Currently, Rocky Flats is planning a test burn of radioactive toxic waste as a disposal method. If the test is "successful," it will lead to continuous burning of this waste.

The uniqueness of Rocky Flats in the nuclear chain will be its downfall. Direct action at Rocky Flats can stop new arms construction. For Nagasaki Day, August 9, activists plan a legal peace walk and a human blockade of Rocky Flats (there are only two gates). A Peace Encampment will take place during the week leading up to the 9th.

In the past year, the peace movement has shown that it can successfully disrupt the arms race with the actions at the Nevada Test Site. However, as important as the test site is as a focus, the actions there no longer delay nuclear testing. If people from throughout the US gather at Rocky Flats, the probability of successfully stopping US nuclear weapons production is high. For information, contact: Rocky Flats campaign, c/o Penny Lane, 1738 Pearl St, Boulder, CO 80302 (303-443-2822).

EF!VA Prints Newsletter

Virginia Earth First! is a new newsletter discussing Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland issues. The following is condensed from an article by Bob Mueller in the second issue:

Although we Earth First!ers are committed to fighting roads on public lands, we don't often recognize that the automobile and roads outside *public lands are equally destructive. For example, in Virginia the Governor's new road-building program will require digging more gravel pits and dredging river bottoms and wetlands to provide road materials. Numerous permit applications are now pending before the US Corps of Engineers and state agencies to do just this.*

In addition to causing air pollution, cars give rise to oil, toxic metals, and other pollutants from such sources as dripping oil pans, tire wear, paint and body shops, garages and car factories. The disruptive effect of roads on wildlife is well documented.

Consequently, we should extend our opposition to road construction and cars at every opportunity. We can fight the system by refusing to buy new or large vehicles and by using public transportation.

APPEN Deserves Support

We wish again to commend Asia-Pacific People's Environment Network (APPEN), and the coordinator of this network, Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM), for their noble work on behalf of tropical ecosystems and indigenous peoples. To donate to their work or to obtain information about their fine publications, write: APPEN, c/o SAM, 37, Lorong Birch, Penang, West Malaysia. The following example of a worthy news item from APPEN is extracted from an article by K.W. Richardson in their newsletter *Asian-Pacific Environment* (US$20 sea mail for two years):

The long held view that locusts are pests and must be destroyed by the intense use of poisons is fundamentally wrong.

However hard man has tried to destroy them, not one species of these locusts has become extinct. Some of the methods used have been powerful enough to threaten human lives instead.

Money should instead go into research regarding the possibility of using these abundant locusts to our benefit. Locusts are highly efficient users of green stuff and converters into protein. . . . Instead of battling against locusts in a stubborn attempt to grow that we think we ought to have, we should become their predator. They are a valuable food resource.

CALIFORNIA DESERT

by Feral Curmudgeon

INTRODUCTION: The California deserts cover an area nearly equal in size to the state of Virginia. This region ranges from the Mexican border 300 miles north to the peaks of the White Mountains near Bishop. The area encompasses most of the lands west of the Nevada and Arizona borders to the Sierra Nevada and the line created by the Santa Rosa, San Jacinto, and San Bernardino mountain ranges on the west. Within this magnificent remnant of wild land are 90 mountain ranges, over 760 species of wildlife — nearly 100 of them threatened, 100,000 archeological sites, the world's largest Joshua Tree forest, the highest sand dune system in the US, the oldest living trees, and the 11,700-year-old Creosote ring — the oldest living thing in the world.

Here, three distinct desert ecosystems are found within only a few hundred miles of each other: the mighty peaks and deep, dry troughs of the Great Basin; the long valleys and granite boulders of the Mojave Desert; and the sands and Elephant Trees of the Sonoran/Colorado Desert. Among the California deserts' many attractions are: Death Valley National Monument, Joshua Tree National Monument, the East Mojave National Scenic Area, and many remote places including the Last Chance Range, Saline Valley, Hunter Mountain, the Nopahs, Clarks, New Yorks, and Turtle Mountains. The wind swept peaks of the White Mountains harbor the Bristlecone Pines, the world's oldest living trees. Two hundred miles south in the Mojave, the oldest living thing in the world survives from the same root structure that has nurtured this Creosote from the time of the Cave Lion and the Mastodon. The Jaguar once roamed the rich, riparian canyons, competing with the Cahuilla, Mohave, and the Chemehuevi peoples. The once plentiful Desert Bighorn provided food and clothing for these people, as did the desert's reptiles, rodents, and plants. The region contains the world's largest collection of ancient Indian art works and artifacts, with some petroglyph and pictograph sites dating back 10,000 years.

CRANSTON'S BILL: These remnant deserts have become the playground of a bulging southern California population. In order to maintain some semblance of the natural desert, Senator Alan Cranston has introduced the California Desert Protection Act, Senate Bill 7; while Representative Mel Levine from Los Angeles has introduced the companion bill, HR371. They have asked that large areas be set aside as National Parks and as Wilderness Areas managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Senator Cranston has led the way in many environmental battles, but being a politician he has gone out of his way to placate the elite few who can afford off-road-vehicles (ORVs) — the elite who make losing investments in ranches or bogus mining operations for the tax breaks they offer. Cranston's bill would leave nearly 30,000 miles of "road" open to vehicles. It would allow areas to remain as sacrifice areas for all-terrain-vehicles (ATVs), and would allow mining to continue. The bill would not close areas that can be revitalized as wilderness. It ignores the fact that the 1872 Mining Act is outdated and should be repealed. It ignores the destruction of vast areas of the desert by livestock overgrazing. It does not propose reintroduction of extirpated species. (BLM has only made a few pitiful attempts.) In short, Cranston's Desert Protection Act would not protect the land in any visionary sense.

Earth First! feels his Desert Protection Act is a beginning. However, no more compromise is suitable for the California deserts. The area has been in a compromise situation for over a century, and the land, wildlife and native people have lost at every turn.

Whereas Cranston has made major but retractable mistakes, the BLM Desert Plan is a travesty. We feel it is our duty as citizens to assist in the planning for the management of the California deserts.

EARTH FIRST! PROPOSAL: Earth First! offers an alternative to the Cranston bill — our version of the California Desert Protection Act. While not complete in management detail, it *is* visionary. We will later improve the plans for inadequately covered or unprotected areas within this proposal.

Earth First! proposes a 17 million acre California Desert National Park. This extremely diverse area would contain the highest summits of the White Mountains and the lowest depressions of Death Valley. (Incorporating in the Park the 48 states' highest peak — Mt. Whitney in the Sierra Nevada — as well as the lowest point — Badwater in Death Valley — although not part of the EF! proposal at this time, would be a good idea. It might force Los Angeles out of the Owens Valley.) The EF! proposal would forever protect three major desert ecosystems, including both the basins and ranges of the Great Basin — in contrast to the woefully inadequate Great Basin National Park in Nevada, which protects little more than Wheeler Peak.

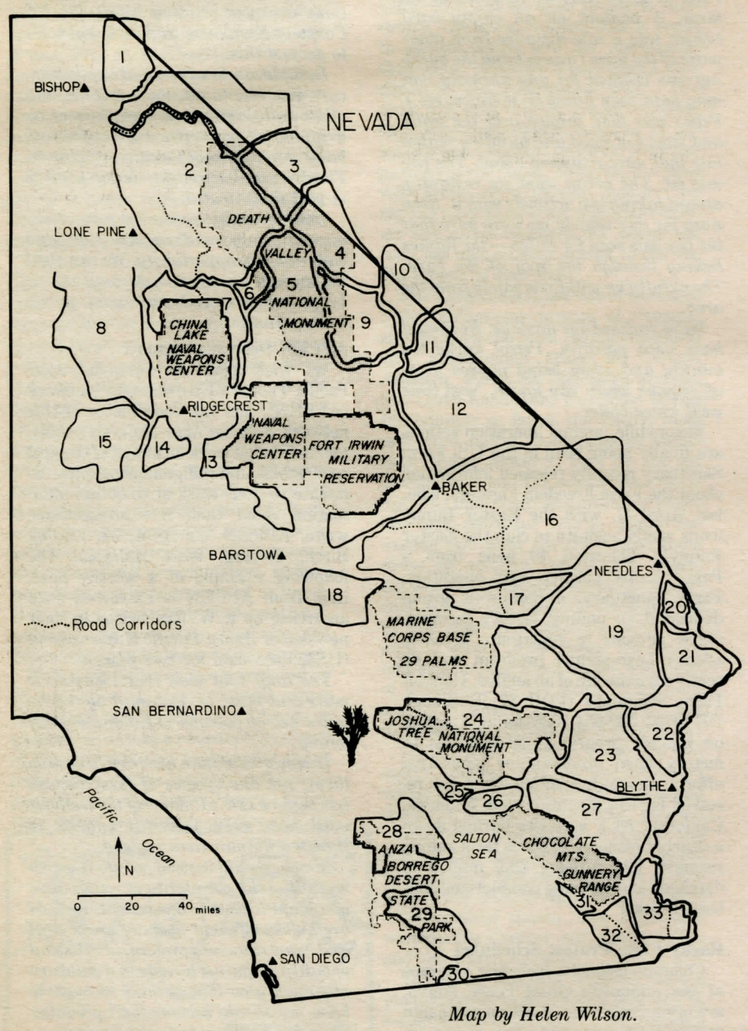
How might the federal government implement our proposal? Realizing it is visionary, EF! will put forth simple principles to lessen the burden on the bureaucrats.

WILDERNESS: Senator Cranston has asked that approximately 8.5 million acres of desert be included in the Wilderness System. This Wilderness would include about 4.5 million acres under the control of the BLM, with the remaining 3.9 million acres under the National Park Service as National Parks.

These acreages are not adequate. Earth First! proposes approximately 17 million acres for Wilderness in southern California and contiguous portions of Nevada and Arizona. We urge Senator Cranston to persuade the Congressional delegations from these two bordering states to protect as Wilderness those areas contiguous to the California Wilderness Areas. Large protected areas will then follow natural boundaries instead of the false boundaries that humans have imposed on the land. The natural boundaries will incorporate whole ecosystems — such as the Colorado River System including the Whipple Mountains and the Chemehuevi and Vidal Valleys; and the Panamint Valley and Range extending into Death Valley. Each Wilderness Area will include all of an ecosystem's plant communities, ecotones, and transitional elevation zones within its boundaries.

Following natural boundaries would entail protecting as Wilderness, for example, all undeveloped areas along the Colorado River. All present State Parks and National Wildlife Refuges along the river would be managed as wild areas. The lower Colorado River, the area bounded by Arizona on the east and California on the West, will cease to be an scum-laden playground, and will be managed as a riparian Wilderness. This would require the elimination of motorboats from the Havasu, Cibola, and Imperial National Wildlife Refuges.

BLM LANDS: Most lands within the boundaries of the EF! proposed park are now under the direction of the BLM, but many of the proposed Wildernesses are on state and Forest Service lands.



Map by Helen Wilson.

The Earth First! California Deserts National Park Wilderness Proposal

Area #	Acres	Area #	Acres
1	265,000	18	220,000
2	2,400,000	19	1,500,000
3	390,000	20	130,000
4	375,000	21	220,000
5	1,500,000	22	330,000
6	110,000	23	485,000
7	419,000	24	1,100,000
8	660,000	25	100,000
9	440,000	26	170,000
10	265,000	27	460,000
11	155,000	28	350,000
12	860,000	29	240,000
13	220,000	30	44,000
14	130,000	31	66,000
15	265,000	32	150,000
16	2,200,000	33	330,000
17	265,000		

total = 16,814,000 acres

Nevertheless, in most cases, the proposed Wildernesses are within or next to the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA). The CDCA includes a variety of BLM jurisdictional zones and, as is the case with all BLM lands, the BLM has proved itself inept at managing these. The Wilderness Society report, "Failure in the Desert," chronicles more than 250 incidents of illegal development and land abuse within BLM designated "wilderness study areas" (WSAs). One such case involved the use of cyanide to leach gold from a mining site in the Inyo Mountains WSA. This cost taxpayers $25,000 for clean up when the mine operator left twenty 50-gallon drums of cyanide and tons of equipment at the site. In another case, a miner bulldozed a road nine miles into the highest ranked WSA in the CDCA, and received essentially a mere slap in the hand for this offense. In perhaps the worst case, the BLM allowed the Barstow to Las Vegas motorcycle race to go through a WSA in 1983 and 1984 — after the race had been banned for nearly a decade due to its environmental damage. None of these hundreds of incidents caused, according to BLM, significant environmental damage.

CALIFORNIA DESERT NATIONAL PARK: Due to BLM's penchant for consumptive uses of its lands, Earth First! proposes that all land within the boundaries of the EF! California deserts reserve be administered by the National Park Service as the California Deserts National Park. Lands now under the jurisdiction of the state, such as Red Rock and Anza-Borego State Parks, would remain under state guidance, but would be managed as Wilderness where borders are contiguous with the proposed Park borders. Forest Service lands also would remain under present jurisdiction but protected as Wilderness.

WILDERNESS RECOVERY AREAS: Large areas to be designated Wilderness will, perforce, incorporate areas that fail to meet the definition of Wilderness provided by the 1964 Wilderness Act. These areas will be designated Wilderness Recovery Areas (WRAs). WRAs will be established through removal of all modern human artifacts — roads, railroad tracks, power and telephone poles, fences, etc. — and by reclamation of abandoned mines and other damaged sites.

REINTRODUCTION OF EXTIRPATED SPECIES: Contrary to the words and intent of the Endangered Species Act, BLM has given only lip service to programs to protect or reintroduce rare, Threatened, or Endangered species that once flourished in the desert. The BLM solution for many such species has been to create within their habitats minute "Areas of Critical Environmental Concern" (ACECs). EF! demands that species which were once permanent or transient inhabitants of the California deserts be immediately reintroduced into appropriate habitat, and that habitat be restored in areas once frequented by these plants and animals. Among the species and subspecies that must be allowed to repopulate without unwarranted disturbances are the following: the Jaguar, Desert Tortoise, Fringe-toed Lizard, Desert Banded Gecko, Desert Pupfish, Mojave Chub, Pronghorn, Desert Bighorn Sheep, Least Bells Vireo, Inyo Brown Towhee, Eureka Evening Primrose, Panamint Daisy, the aster *Helianthus niveus typhrodes*, and the poaceae *Swallenia alexandrae*.

EF! demands that the agencies involved in the Park management reestablish riparian habitat for the Jaguar, and close roads that bisect Bighorn migration routes. We demand that the ACEC concept be replaced, with ACECs given Wilderness status. The fate of ACECs should not be administratively determined; they should be Congressionally mandated Wilderness Areas. Private lands near or within these areas should be acquired by whatever means necessary.

OFF-ROAD-VEHICLES: Among the desert despoilers, the ORVers, or off-road-vermin, are making the biggest noise about Cranston's pro-

A Vision of Wilderness

posal, so we'll address their concerns first. Knowing that most ORVers are less than astute, we will make this section of the proposal simple: There would be NO ORVs, ATCs or any variation thereof allowed within the boundaries of the National Park. No motorized vehicle would be allowed to deviate from designated vehicle corridors. Only street-legal vehicles (and licensed drivers) would be allowed on these signed roadways.

The desert's serenity is shattered every day by hordes of ORVs. According to research by the US Geological Survey (USGS), the intense noise of these machines ruptures the ear drums of Kangaroo Rats, causing loss of hearing and making them much more susceptible to predation. Many animals' burrows and shelter areas are destroyed by ORV tires. They then become, like the Kangaroo Rat, much more vulnerable to predation, and to climate stress. Insects, lizards, and plants are crushed under tires. The soil is compacted or blown away, hindering seed germination. Many of the ORVers' favored haunts are also favored by rare plants. The sand dunes throughout the desert, which are overrun by ORVs, harbor some of the world's rarest and most fragile plants (*Dedeckera eurekensis, Oenothera avita eurekensis*, etc.). Furthermore, ORVs open the backcountry to pot hunters and ORVs crush the soil and the many archeological artifacts found therein.

Off-road races, like the annual Barstow to Vegas race, take an incredible toll on the land. The racers, spectators, pit crews, and families of the racers — all with bikes or ATCs — devastate the land for miles on both sides of the course. ORVs displace the thin upper soil layer that supports all life in the desert. In the Red Rock Canyon country of the Mojave, the soil mantle is completely destroyed along popular runs. Experts from the USGS have stated that it could be 10,000 years before any soil will redevelop. A four-wheel-drive displaces 3.3 tons of earth for every mile it travels; a motorcycle, three-quarters of a ton. When the bed rock is exposed, it is less fun on an ORV, so the driver goes to another area where the soil is still intact. It becomes a vicious cycle with the soil, literally, losing at every turn. The BLM thinks they can control these negative impacts through mitigation measures such as signing roads, constructing barriers, or catching evil-doers with one of their 19 rangers charged with patrolling 12.5 million acres. Walk any road in the desert and you will see BLM closure signs with scars from the brodie-makers encircling nearly every one. The ORV scars will last decades. Tracks from General Patton's practice tank raids are still visible after 45 years. The tracks of wagons supplying early Death Valley area mining camps are still seen after nearly 100 years.

EF! demands that the federal government no longer allow the abuse of the California deserts by ORVers. This no-ORV policy will be a starting point for the elimination of these machines from all public lands in the US.

GRAZING: In California Deserts National Park, equal priority would be given to all native forms of life. The Park would eliminate domestic grazers. Cattle, sheep, and goats have never been integral parts of a desert ecosystem. This has been graphically shown throughout the world. Cattle damage is apparent throughout the California deserts, particularly at the East Mojave National Scenic Area, Hunter Mountain, and Coyote Canyon where the BLM has used helicopters to try to eliminate the beasts from Bighorn habitat. The East Mojave, home to the increasingly rare Desert Bighorn, is so overrun by cows that there is virtually no place one can go without experiencing the smell and flies left by cattle. On Hunter Mountain (the area ranked second in Wilderness potential of all CA WSAs under consideration) the BLM has spent tens of thousands of dollars and countless labor hours to "improve" the range on one allotment for one rancher and less than 200 cows!

In much of the CDCA, grazing is the most environmentally detrimental activity taking place. Yet the BLM management plan calls for an increase of 479,039 acres of public land for use as perennial, ephemeral, or perennial/ephemeral range. This would make 40% of the public land within the CDCA some type of grazing allotment. Range improvements planned include 327 miles of fence, 220 miles of water pipeline, 61 wells, 58 spring developments, 29 catchments, and 153 troughs. These improvements would benefit 67 ranchers. Few, if any, of these ranchers depend upon their ranching operation as their only source of income. No Savory placebos or reductions in numbers will help these arid desert areas. The only solution is the elimination of all domestic grazing from public lands within the California deserts.

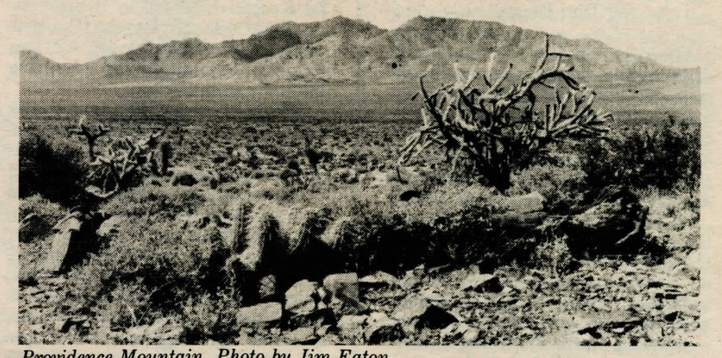
ROADS, POWER CORRIDORS, RAIL LINES, ETC: For the present, paved roads would, with a few exceptions, remain open to legitimate uses. Roads to remain intact would include I-15, I-40, I-10, I-8, and highways 95, 14, 395, 86, 62, 127, 190, and 78. However, many of the lesser used or ecologically devastating roads would be allowed to begin their inevitable demise. We recommend that this be referred to as the "Pot Holes Plan" for reclaiming roads in WRAs. These roads would be allowed to disintegrate and begin life anew as trails, wagon roads, or mere remnants of an uncaring civilization.

EF! accepts the concept of historical roads. The history of the desert, in addition to its natural diversity, should be preserved. However, the historical roads would provide access by historical means. Foot, horse, oxen, and mules were the means of travel used by the Indians, early settlers, and explorers. Let the roads now open because of their historical significance remain open, but only to those willing to experience history through living it. Why debase our colorful history by allowing it to be crushed by some Japanese manufactured play toy? Leave the history in the Anza Trail, the Mojave Road, and the Nadeau Road.

Roads that remain would serve as power transmission corridors as well as vehicle corridors. All power, phone, gas, and utility lines would be incorporated into the vehicle corridors. These cables, pipelines, and their accompanying roads are now found throughout the CDCA. Incorporating these facilities with the major roads would serve to make them cheaper to maintain, and would lessen the chance of these blights falling prey to vandals.

Active rail systems would remain open, but with modifications. Railroads traversing otherwise wild sections of this Park would be converted to the form of propulsion that is least ecologically destructive. These lines, such as the track now dividing the Eastern Mojave National Scenic Area, would be converted to electricity to reduce noise and air pollution within the Park. Trains providing access to otherwise remote areas would have scheduled stops and would pick up and drop off backpackers, school groups, and others all along their path. This would benefit the dying towns along the lines. Railroad stations such as the Kelso Depot might become visitor centers and administration areas. Railroad tracks created for the express purpose of accessing large mines (e.g., the track that runs between Ripley and Rice, or the Eagle Mountain Mining Railroad) would be removed and the beds converted to hiking trails.

MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OVERFLIGHTS: One of the biggest threats to the tranquillity of the California deserts is the noise of military aircraft. This deserts have 3,000,000 acres of military reservation, yet this is far less than what the military uses. The Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Army believe that the California deserts exist for use as their private air park. These pilots constantly violate the sanctity of Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments — areas legally off-limits to them. They have informal clubs of pilots who have flown below sea level through Death Valley. They mock-strafe



Providence Mountain. Photo by Jim Eaton.

unsuspecting civilians. Military 50 caliber bullets have been found in Death Valley, within half a mile of a public campground. Pilots have repeatedly broken windows and caused emotional stress in desert communities. Rumor suggests that military personnel have landed helicopters at historic mining towns in the Inyo Mountains and sacked them of all valuable artifacts. Many of these sites are located in such rugged terrain that removal of the artifacts can only be accomplished by helicopter.

These activities must be stopped. The military would be restricted to air space above the three million acres already set aside for them. This would save millions of US taxpayers' dollars in fuel costs alone (jets consume several thousand dollars worth of fuel per hour).

Civilian aircraft also invade the deserts. These planes land on fragile dry lake beds causing damage to unique formations such as the Race Track in Death Valley. Many opponents of the Cranston bill who want more roads point out, as a justification for roads, that — because of their remoteness — dry lakes are used for landing and transfer points by smugglers. To avoid problems now prevalent in Grand Canyon and Yosemite National Parks, the Earth First! proposal would require all military aircraft and commercial jets to maintain an altitude of at least 20,000 feet above ground level, the only exception being for aircraft landing or taking off at nearby airports. This flight restriction, coupled with the complete closure of most access roads, would virtually eliminate the smuggling problem at remote lake beds.

MINING AND MINERAL EXPLORATION: All mining within the new Park would be phased out. Several of the now producing mines (12 are now producing) would be excluded from the Park. This would occur with the stipulation that all visual, noise, and olfactory pollution be eliminated. All old (not working) mining claims held by corporations or individuals would be rehabilitated by those claims holders, whether or not they are responsible for the disturbance. All claims within the Deserts National Park would have a validity assessment completed within the first year of Park designation. According to reputable sources, this would eliminate at least 90% of claims within the California Desert. EF! would demand a Congressional investigation of information garnered from the inspection of all claims, and repeal, based thereon, of the outdated 1872 Mining Act.

Due to the many sand and gravel mines within the CDCA (90% of all new mines are sand and gravel operations), EF! proposes that displaced miners be offered jobs recycling sand and gravel from roadways and rail lines closed by creation of the Park. This would allow them to earn pay and provide a useful service. These road rehabilitation projects could be treated like timber sales; each contractor could bid on the sale, and the winner would have the right to dismantle the road and sell the sorted and cleaned rock. Pursuant to the permit to disassemble roads, the contractor would issue big money bonds to be returned upon the complete destruction of the roads. The roads would be returned to as nearly a natural condition as is possible.

The California deserts area is one of the most highly prospected places on Earth. Although mineral potential is often cited as a reason against Wilderness, this potential is rarely developed. If indeed that potential were real, these mines would be booming. People believing that there is unlimited money to be gained below the desert surface delude themselves.

The mining industry has left an interesting history on the land. To meet the interest in capturing mining history, EF! proposes that the federal government purchase the deserted town of Eagle Mountain. This town could be converted to a living history exhibit (National Scar Site) showing this company town in all its devastating glory. The few people who were too poor or disabled to leave Eagle Mountain when it was abandoned would be offered jobs as part of the living history program.

HUMAN EXCLOSURE: EF! proposes the ultimate in human unselfishness — the first federally mandated Human Exclosure Area. This area will consist of the Clark Mountains and all surrounding bajada, fan, and basin

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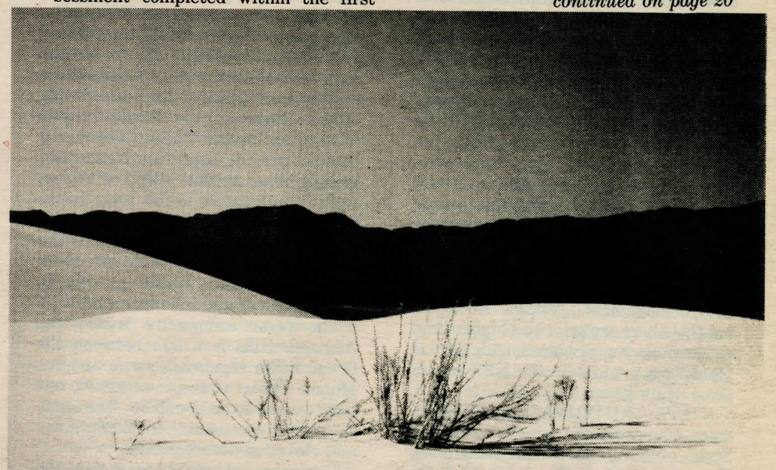


Eureka Dunes. Photo by Dave Foreman.

Color the Grand Canyon Threatened

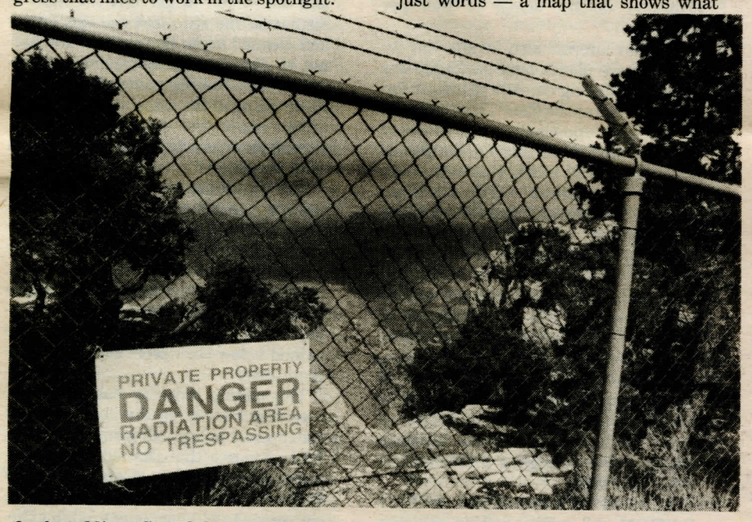
by Dan Dagget

After the last round of demos and arrests at Grand Canyon National Park, more people than ever know about the uranium mining assault on the Grand Canyon and the remote lands surrounding it. All over the US, people have read about the issue in publications from *Earth First!* to *The New York Times*.

So where's the action? The BLM and the Kaibab National Forest are turning the Canyon region over to the nuke miners while refusing to look at the ecological issues. The National Park Service, which at one time expressed the same concerns as Earth First!, has become quiet due to orders from higher up.

Along the polluted banks of the Potomac, the uranium mining issue has not caught fire as has another controversy that currently buzzes over what legislators and bureaucrats call "the Flagship of America's national park system." While Congress and the federal bureaucracies move toward doing at least something minimal about the aircraft noise that plagues the Canyon, they still turn a deaf ear to the uproar over the mines.

The collision of two aircraft over Crystal Rapids, and the death of the 25 passengers aboard, no doubt contributed to the amount of attention paid to the noise issue. It forced that controversy into national headlines and supplied the impetus needed for a Congress that likes to work in the spotlight.



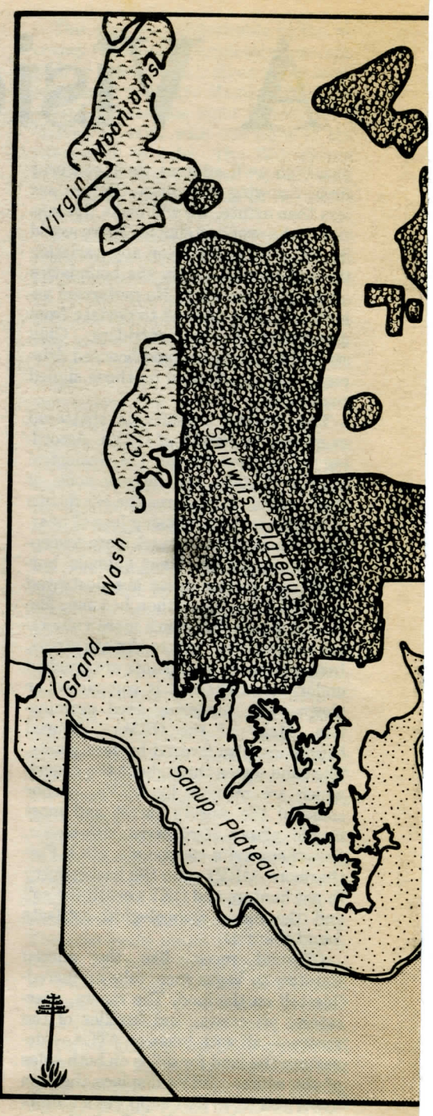
Orphan Mine, Grand Canyon National Park. Photo by Glenn B. Morse.

Yet a coalition headed by Representative Tony Coelho (D, CA) and then-Representative John McCain (R, AZ) was well on the way to doing something about the noise anyway.

So, why has there been so much talk but so little action on what many environmentalists consider a more serious problem? Perhaps a clue was given at a recent exchange in Flagstaff between Arizona's new senator, John McCain, and Mary Sojourner of Canyon Under Siege. Sojourner asked why Congress in general, and McCain in particular, wasn't doing anything about the mines. McCain's answer was that there are just six mines operating near the Canyon and only a few more proposed. Six 20-acre mine sites in an area of millions of acres; what's the problem?

It's not surprising that McCain and many others think that way. Articles about the issue are usually accompanied by a map showing eight or ten dots virtually lost in an immense, apparently secure expanse of undisturbed territory. Since people absorb pictures much better than they do words, no matter what the scripts of those articles say, their message is hopelessly diluted by the contradiction posed by those deceptive little maps. What the hell are all these people yelling about? A few little dots in an area that big?

You and I know there's a lot more to it than that. We need a way to show what we know, with pictures instead of just words — a map that shows what is happening, a map which shows the 50,000 claims that have been filed on almost 1.25 million acres of land. Putting together such a map would be no small chore. Not surprisingly, the federal agencies in charge of managing the lands where the nuke mining boom is in process have no such map available (if they did, they might make more intelligent decisions.) But in response to requests from environmentalists, they did whip together a couple of rough versions. The map with this article is a composite of those maps. Information for it was supplied by BLM officials at St. George, Utah, Cloyd Swap and Holly Roberts; and a planner from the Supervisor's Office of the Kaibab National Forest in Williams, Arizona.



The threatening gray stain — looming just outside the protective boundaries of Grand Canyon National Park, Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Grand Canyon Game Preserve (identical with the north portion of the Kaibab National Forest), and the Havasupai and Paiute Indian Reservations — represents the areas of concentrated uranium claims on federal lands. According to Rob Roudabush, Area Manager for the Arizona Strip District of the BLM, between 75 and 90% of the claims on BLM land are within this stain.

No one looking at this map needs a magnifying glass to see the threat uranium mining poses to the Grand Canyon ecosystem. Those who say the huge area of claims concentrations is not an accurate measure of that threat, because it does not indicate how many mines will actually open, should consider a few points: The stain on this map has already devoured 670,000 acres of roadless area that were considered for Wilderness protection. It would have also gobbled up the northern portion of the Kaibab National Forest (Grand Canyon Game Preserve) were it not for the efforts of the Arizona Wildlife Federation and the Forest Service (why aren't they doing such a good job on the southern portion?), who went to court together to keep mining out. That stain would also have spread over 700,000 acres of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area were it not for a law suit by the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund. And it would have spread over several thousand acres of land belonging to the State of Arizona if those lands had not been made off limits to uranium mining by former Governor Bruce Babbitt's Land Commissioner, Bob Lane.

Rather than exaggerating the threat to the Canyon region, this map presents an extremely conservative picture. When asked how much of the land on the Arizona strip was claimed that was not protected within a Park or Wilderness or some such designated area, or wasn't too steep, or didn't have the right geology, Holly Roberts of the BLM said, "All of it." Rob Roudabush said the reason some areas weren't included within the claims concentration boundaries was that those areas just weren't suitable for uranium prospecting. In such areas, either the rock strata that contains the uranium has eroded away or it is covered with lava or other deposits that make it impossible to detect the collapsed caves that hold the uranium.

California Desert

Continued from page 19

lands, and will extend north to include the Kingston Mountains. These 450,000 acres (located in the proposed Wilderness section #12) would be closed to all human entry for at least 50 years. It is time we let Mother Nature do her own work. The land surrounding this exclosure would be managed as Wilderness, thereby creating a buffer zone to protect the integrity of the Exclosure.

We recognize the special challenges that an area like this would pose. However, many land managers within the Park system would enjoy such challenges. Land-use professionals should deal with provocative problems, instead of being reduced to political lackeys for mining, grazing, and big business interests. The National Park Service was once the world's standard bearer for land management agencies. Recognizing that there are priorities higher than concessions, motor homes, and political pandering would help the NPS regain some of its luster.

STATE AND PRIVATE LANDS: All lands now under the jurisdiction of the State of California would remain so. This would include Picacho State Park, Red Rock Canyon, Anza-Borrego, and Providence Mountain State Park. Private lands within the borders of the National Park would be acquired by trade and/or purchase. Lands now controlled by the federal government that are close to State Park lands would be traded to the State Parks to be managed as State Park Wilderness Areas. This would add vital land to the California State Park system.

ALABAMA HILLS: Although not close to other State Parks, the Alabama Hills area is a good example of lands needing more protection. These hills, mismanaged by the BLM, are located just west of Lone Pine. They cover less than 19,000 acres, but the bajada areas that connect them to the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada should be protected as well. These connecting bajadas provide migration routes and grazing areas for deer, Bighorn Sheep, and Elk (not native to this area; due to habitat decimation in the San Joaquin Valley they were translocated to the Owens Valley in the 1930s to save them from extirpation). Cattle grazing in these areas should be eliminated.

The plant community within the Alabama Hills is a mix between the Great Basin sagebrush scrub and the Mojave Desert Creosote scrub. No one plant seems to be dominant. The annuals can be spectacular, including many mid-elevation desert plants.

Our proposal would leave open the two main access roads — Mt. Whitney Road, bisecting the hills as it heads west into the Sierra Nevada; and Movie Road, which winds through the hills in a north/south direction. All other spur roads and connector routes would be closed, obliterated, and the closures enforced.

EF! proposes that the Alabama Hills be given to the California State Park System to be protected as a unique geological formation and plant community. There are five campgrounds nearby, including one BLM campground. We propose that this be turned over to the State Park System, as the BLM has not maintained it. The campground could provide the State Park with revenue so that emphasis could be on preservation and education/interpretation.

Marked trails would not be necessary, except as needed to protect vegetation from human intrusion, and except perhaps for one interpretative trail to educate the public about plants within this unique community. There would be no development within the Park.

MANAGEMENT OF CALIFORNIA DESERT NATIONAL PARK: The Earth First! proposal would reduce the bureaucratic in-fighting now occurring over the management of the desert. Our proposal would simplify management by placing all lands now held by the BLM under the National Park Service. Unlike the Cranston bill, our proposal would place federal lands under one agency, with 33 separate Wilderness Areas. Cranston's bill offers more bureaucratic headaches by proposing to leave 82 Wildernesses under the BLM, while creating three new National Parks. Cranston's plan would create situations like that in Yellowstone and other National Parks, where the development mentality is forever encroaching on Park boundaries.

Ironically, the very interests that long decried the existence of the BLM (i.e., miners, ORVers, and sagebrush rebels) now find themselves backing the BLM; while the BLM has embraced these same groups that have caused them their biggest problems. Illegal mining is rampant, over-stocking grazing allotments is common, destruction of federal property and ORV tracks bypassing BLM closed area signs is a normal sight. Yet the BLM is fighting this Cranston proposal on the side of the despoilers. Why? Only BLM head Bob Burford can answer such questions.

EF! could be called anything but radical for supporting the National Park Service; since unfortunately, the NPS is suffering from many of the same political problems found within all the resource agencies now managed by Reagan appointees. However, we feel that with a push in the right direction, and due to the NPS preservation mandate, the NPS could avoid the multiple abuse syndrome now running amuck within the BLM and the Forest Service.

The Earth First! proposal calls for a National Park to be managed from a plan giving the highest priority to all native beings on a just and equal basis.

LOBO COME HOME

Wolf Reintroduction in the Southwest from an EF! Perspective

by Steve Marlatt

The proposed reintroduction of the Mexican Wolf in the Southwest has generated considerable controversy and misinformation. Ranchers claim Wolves will eat them out of business, mothers fear they will carry off their children, and hunters foresee losing hunting privileges. Are these opinions based on biological studies? Is there any chance for the Mexican Wolf to ever become reestablished in the midst of this controversy?

The purpose of this article is to try to answer some of these questions. As a wildlife biologist, I conducted an extensive literature search on the Mexican Wolf, examining every article, management plan, and "rumor" that I could obtain. After much analysis, I compiled what can be considered as close as possible to the "straight stuff" on the Mexican Wolf.

A good place to begin is by looking at historical and biological information for the Mexican Wolf in the Southwest. Sadly, most of the Wolves were gone before any extensive natural history studies were conducted on them. Alleged competition with ranchers and hunters, along with fear and ignorance, led to a campaign to control and eventually extirpate the sub-species from the US. From the 1890s to the 1960s, the Wolf was driven from relative abundance to near extinction. Strychnine, and later Compound 1080, were the major "tools" used in this war of extermination.

Little is known about the animal's hunting techniques or the finer details of its habits and social organization. Most of the information we do have comes from the notes of Wolf hunters pursuing animals that were killing domestic livestock and, consequently, some of the behavior they reported may have been atypical. Keeping these potential biases in mind, though, we can still make relatively sound judgments of what the "normal" life for the Mexican Wolf is like. This knowledge allows us to answer some of the common questions about the Wolf.

When did Wolves first come to the Southwest and how numerous were they? The Wolf has inhabited the Southwestern bioregion since at least the late Pleistocene (10-15,000 years ago). The size of historic populations will never be known, but early frontiersmen indicated that Wolves were at least common, if not particularly numerous. Population sizes may have even increased during the early Spanish and Mexican periods, due to the easy food supply found in large, poorly guarded livestock herds and repeated massive die-offs. This trend was quickly reversed, however, when ranchers started using strychnine-laced animal carcasses. It should be also kept in mind that the Wolf is a wanderer and far-forager, covering many miles in a short time. Statements such as "the wolves were everywhere" could arise from the fact that a few Wolves were repeatedly seen at widely separated localities.

How many subspecies of Wolf were found in the Southwest? Three subspecies of the Gray Wolf originally inhabited the Southwest: the Plains or Buffalo Wolf (*Canis lupus nubilis*), found in eastern New Mexico and the panhandle of Texas; the Intermountain or Great Wolf (*C. l. youngi*), found in northern Arizona and New Mexico; and the Mexican Wolf (*C. l. baileyi*), found in Mexico, Arizona, central and southern New Mexico, and west Texas. Of these three, only the Mexican Wolf survives; the others are extinct. The last verified wild Mexican Wolves in the US were killed in the late 1960s and early '70s, although undocumented sightings near the border region are still reported today. On April 28, 1976, the subspecies was listed as federally Endangered.

How big are they? The Mexican Wolf is often thought to be the smallest of the Gray Wolf subspecies, although weight and skull dimensions overlap averages recorded for the Eastern Timber Wolf. The weights for adult Mexican Wolves range from 54 to 99 pounds, with males averaging 89 pounds, and females averaging 77 pounds (McBride 1980).

What, and how much, do they eat? David Brown (1983) suggests that the primary native prey species of the wolf in the Southwest were Coues White-tailed Deer, Mule Deer, Pronghorn, and Bison. Leopold (1972) lists also peccary, Bighorn Sheep, rabbits, many rodents, and occasionally berries and fruits. And, yes, Wolves do eat livestock. After the arrival of Europeans in the Southwest, Wolves readily adapted to cattle, sheep, burros, and horses.

The belief that Wolves always pursue the sick, very young, or old does not always hold true, at least where domestic livestock are concerned. McBride tells of an incident he watched in which two Wolves passed the stragglers in a herd of cattle and selected one of the choicest steers.

The amount of food a Wolf needs varies with the region, type and availability of prey, and season. Wolves commonly go without food for three or four days and then gorge, eating as much as 18 pounds of food in one sitting. No food requirements have been determined for Mexican Wolves in the wild, but captive Wolf diets range from two to 3.5 pounds of pet food per Wolf per day. An important inference, though, should be noted in a study done on Isle Royale; in which Wolves in the wild consumed from two to four times the amount for captive Wolves.

What type of habitat do they need? Mexican Wolves have been generally associated with open montane forests and woodlands. One report described southwestern Wolf country as including areas from the chaparral-desert scrub country, up through grasslands, and into the spruce-fir woodlands; noting that records are rare of Wolves in desert scrub below 3000 feet in elevation.

Because of their hunting strategy of running large ungulates to the ground, Mexican Wolves probably avoided rough and brushy terrain. Reports indicate that they frequented high mountain ridges, rounded hills, mesas, bajadas, and wooded stringers extending into the grassland valleys.

How big are their territories? Little is known about Mexican Wolf territories. Runways or travel circuits, though, are mentioned by many authors as being used by Wolves in finding or using a hunting territory. These runways followed trails, washes, roads, or other easy routes; enabling Wolves to cover scores, even hundreds, of miles in only a few days.

What size are their "groups"? Group structure in Mexican Wolves differs from that of most northern subspecies. Sightings of groups of more than five Wolves were rare, with the average being from one to three Wolves. The reason for this seems to be tied to their major prey of individual deer and Pronghorn. It doesn't take many Wolves to bring an animal of this size down, and there is less to go around at feeding time.

Wolf advocates and biologists increasingly use the term "group" to refer to Mexican Wolf packs. This is due to the lack of "traditional" pack structure associated with northern Wolves, and to help dispel the psychological image of "packs of raging, bloodthirsty animals" that has been created by our myths. "Groups" are seen as more benign associations, and we need all the help we can get in presenting a better image of the Wolf.

How many offspring do they have? The ability of the Mexican Wolf to have a high reproductive rate is documented by many authors. McBride reports an average litter size of five to six pups. These studies, however, were conducted on Wolf populations subject to intense predator control, which could result in increased numbers of offspring produced to compensate for the high mortality. Wolf reproduction rates before the immigration of Europeans were probably much lower, limited by food availability, population density, and other environmental conditions.

Are there Mexican Wolves still in the wild in Mexico? From 1972 to 1980, Roy McBride captured the five original Wolves that became the basis for the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) captive breeding program. In 1980, he estimated that fewer than 50 Wolves remained in the wild. During 1981-82, after extensive surveys and contacting area ranchers, McBride confirmed no verifiable Wolf sightings in Mex 0o. In 1983, he declined to renew his capture agreement with the USFWS. Whether this means that the Mexican Wolf is now extinct in the wild is debatable. Yet one thing is certain: with the current human encroachment into the regions of Durango and Chihuahua where Wolves were last found, any undisturbed habitat remaining will soon be gone. The future of the Mexican Wolf in Mexico looks much less promising than the chance for successful reintroductions in the US.

How many "pure breed" Mexican Wolves remain in captivity? As of March 1986, the original five wild-caught Wolves had produced 28 offspring. Many other so-called Mexican Wolves are found in zoos in the West, but their true lineage is uncertain and thus they are not being used in the captive breeding program. The Rio Grande Zoo in Albuquerque and the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson have two of the major breeding facilities in the Southwest.

Now that we have a feeling for the history and biology of the Mexican Wolf, is there sufficient reason to believe that the Wolf can be brought back to the Southwest? Is there any place in the region, or any set of management conditions, that could allow the Wolf to survive in the wild again? This is the type of question that the Mexican Wolf Recovery Team posed in attempting to evaluate * introduction into the wild.

Restoration in the wild versus preservation in captivity: The Mexican Wolf Recovery Team is evaluating the possibility of Mexican Wolf reintroduction. At the beginning stages of the recovery plan, some suggested that extinction of the Mexican Wolf might be prevented by propagation solely in captivity — in zoos or large fenced enclosures — without releases into the wild. Proponents of this plan find it attractive because it would avoid the social and economic problems that restoration in the wild might entail.

This plan was undesirable to the recovery team and is completely unacceptable to Earth First!. Even using large enclosures to insure Mexican Wolf survival confuses the right of individual Wolves to exist with the right of the subspecies to exist. The Wolf cannot reasonably be considered "saved" until it is again roaming free in its native habitat.

Reintroduction sites. The recovery team established minimum standards for potential study areas. The site must be within the historic range of the Mexican Wolf, over 200 square miles in size, and in public ownership. A memo was sent to the states within the historic range (TX, AZ, NM) requesting recommendations for study sites. Texas currently has a law prohibiting reintroduction; nevertheless, Big Bend National Park was recommended for study, with hopes of repealing this law if the area is found suitable. White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) was the only area recommended in New Mexico, leaving out portions of the Gila National Forest recommended by conservationists. The surprise response came from Arizona, in which the US Fish and Wildlife Service identified four sites in the Coronado National Forest that they would like to see recommended. The state of Arizona not only recommended studying these four sites, but included 11 more, some of which range as far north as the Kaibab Plateau. While these do not include all the areas we would recommend, they are a start.

Let's look at one area, White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, as an example to see what factors — ecological, economic, and political — will be considered in determining suitability. The area easily meets the size requirements, has major topographic features in both the San Andres and Oscura Mountains, and is relatively isolated from large human population centers. Livestock grazing has been eliminated from all but the extreme northern end of the range for over 40 years, leaving the vegetation in good to above average condition. Mule Deer and a limited number of Pronghorn inhabit the area, and even the introduced exotic Oryx might serve as a food supply. Hunting, except for a limited Oryx hunt, is not allowed on WSMR.

A conflict might arise over Wolves preying on the state endangered Desert Bighorn Sheep in the area. These sheep, numbering about 25 in recent years, are found only in the far south end of the range. While it is remotely possible that Wolf predations could significantly decrease their numbers, Desert Bighorn Sheep are found elsewhere in the state, and Bighorn Sheep and Wolves lived together in balance for thousands of years.

Map by Helen Wilson based on map in ***The Wolf in the Southwest*** *by David Brown. (Available mail order from EF! Books in Tucson.)*

The military is currently very unreceptive to the idea of a study being conducted on the range. The latest word is that the chances of getting a study approved there this year are "nil." Pressure by conservationists is needed to force WSMR to think about something besides bombs for a change. If the bugs are finally worked out, then the Fish and Wildlife Service will conduct their evaluation, taking up to one year.

Once an area is determined suitable, management parameters will be established to account for potential problems. Such problems might include Wolves leaving the area and killing a neighboring rancher's cattle, Wolves roaming into a town, and Wolves being shot. The Endangered Species experimental classification was specifically designed to deal with these types of problems.

In the East, the USFWS considered plans to reestablish the Red Wolf (*Canis rufus*) on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in North Carolina. Some local people were not excited about having Wolves returned to their area, so a flexible management plan was needed to make reintroduction politically acceptable. Through the political needs of reintroducing this species, the experimental status was developed. The Wolves used in this recovery were classified as "expendable," non-essential to the survival of the species. Provisions within the management plan for Red Wolf reintroduction allow for capture or killing of Wolves that leave the refuge; close monitoring of the Wolves via radio telemetry during the first three to five months after release; and no penalties for the incidental taking of Wolves, provided that the taking is immediately reported to the USFWS. Five years after the Wolves were released, the entire reintroduction effort will be reviewed by the USFWS and the North Carolina Resources Commission to assess the project and the desirability of continuing it.

To be acceptable socially and politically, this type of flexibility needs to be incorporated into a Mexican Wolf management plan. Zones of decreasing protection could be established around the release site — with Wolves completely protected in the recovery area, recaptured and released back into the recovery area if they go into a second zone, and completely removed if they move into a third zone. It is likely that at least a few Wolves won't stay in the release area or will start preying heavily on livestock; these Wolves will have to be recaptured and either released in some other area or returned to captivity. In areas now grazed by livestock, financial incentives could be provided for co-use of an area. All the released Wolves would likely be radio collared, so that their location could be easily determined. In short, all options are open for designing such a management plan. Problems in the past with management restrictions on certain reintroduced species, such as the Rio Grande population of the Whooping Crane, could be eliminated with the above type of plan.

Earth First!ers may ask, "How can a movement like Earth First!, which advocates a 'no compromise' stance, advocate a management plan with so many restrictions and manipulations of a wild animal? Would the Wolves really be better off than if they were in a zoo?" These are valid questions. Personally, though, I believe that "no compromise" in this situation means not giving up on getting Wolves reintroduced into the wild, no matter what the management parameters are. Ideally, I would like to see someone be able to back a truck into the Gila, release a dozen Wolves and let them reestablish a population; but it just doesn't work that way. To be able to hear Wolves howling again in this part of the country, we first must convince the public to accept at least one "highly managed reintroduction."

The final step of the Recovery Team's recommendations depends on movements like ours. We must convince the people of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas that it would be desirable to again have the Mexican Wolf as a part of our wildlife heritage. To help make them understand that the Wolf has a "right" to live in this bioregion with us, we need to hold more events like New Mexico Earth First!'s howling at the (State Capitol) rotunda; encouraging people to ask questions about the issue. We must cut through the centuries of destructive myths, inaccuracies, and legends; to let people see the Wolf for what it really is, a fellow creature, neither good nor bad, sharing this planet with us.

WHAT YOU CAN DO WORKING WITHIN THE SYSTEM: If you live in Arizona, New Mexico or Texas, write your US congresspersons, governor, state legislators and your state game commissions. People both inside and outside this region should write to: Mike Spear, Region 2 Director, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103. Ask them to support studies of potential reintroduction sites identified in each state, especially urging White Sands Missile Range to at least allow a study to be conducted, and add portions of the Gila National Forest in New Mexico. Tell them that a flexible management plan will take into account concerns of user groups. Most of all, tell them what the Mexican Wolf means to you and how things will never be the same until it is back howling with us again.

Steve Marlatt is a wildlife biologist and EF!NM contact who is spending this summer conducting studies of Bald Eagles on Arizona's Salt and Verde Rivers.

Return of the Wolf: The Dark Side

by Dave Foreman

In the Northern Rockies, North Cascades, and Southwest, conservationists have been lately cheered by the natural recolonization of formerly occupied range by once extirpated predators. The formation of two active Wolf packs in the Glacier National Park area of Montana, after a long absence of Wolf activity, has been covered by the national media and has led to a field day of research opportunites for biologists. According to Doug Peacock, the sign in the area is impressive; proof that a Wolf pack has a far greater presence than do individual wolves.

Increased Grizzly Bear sightings in Washington's North Cascades have similarly exercised the media, biologists and conservationists. Where once it was believed that only a handful of Grizzlies drifting across the border were using the North Cascades, it now appears that there may be a growing population of at least thirty big bears resident in the area.

Far to the south, the evidence is that increasing numbers of Ocelots, Jaguars, and Lobo Wolves are using the southwestern borderlands from the the lower Rio Grande Valley to Big Bend in Texas to the Bootheel of New Mexico to the Sky Islands and mesquite bosques of southeastern Arizona.

I am as excited and pleased as anyone that the Wolves, Grizzlies, Jaguars, and Ocelots are returning, but I perceive a dark lining to this shining cloud.

For many years, the wilds of British Columbia, Alberta, Sonora, Chihuahua, Durango and Coahuila formed refuges for the great predators so ruthlessly and efficiently exterminated in the States by cowmen, government trappers, and phony sportsmen. For forty years after the elimination of Wolf, Grizzly, Jaguar and Ocelot from the Southwest, they persisted in the vast and undeveloped deserts and mountains of northern Mexico. Occasionally, a Lobo or spotted cat would drift across the border like a ghost, exciting the fears of the cattle barons and the imaginations of the rest of us.

Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall country maintained the healthiest population of Grizzly Bears in the lower 48 because this was not an island population like that of Yellowstone, but was constantly replenished by the seemingly limitless supply of silvertips to the north in Canada. The North Cascades in Washington held a small population of Griz, as did the Selkirks, Cabinets, Kettle Range, and Salmo-Priest for the same reason: as soon as the good ol' boys got one in their iron sights, another would slip in from the wild north country across the line.

Even the fabled Wolves of Isle Royale and the Boundary Waters lasted until today because they, too, weren't an isolated population but were directly connected to an unbroken nation of Grey Wolves stretching to the Arctic.

Today, however, those wild nations to the mysterious north and south are no more. The guns, traps, poisons, cattle, chainsaws, bulldozers — the tools of civilization — that laid waste to the wildness of the United States, have been turned against the big opens of southern BC and northern Mexico. During the last twenty years, Mexican cattlemen have waged a relentless campaign with 1080 poison against the remaining Lobos and Mexican Grizzlies. The Griz may be gone; the Lobos are a handful. Faced with the inexorable population growth and concomitant development of Mexico, the Jaguar and Ocelot have slipped further south to their last stronghold in the disappearing rainforests of Central America and the Amazon.

Excepting only the tropical rainforests, perhaps nowhere else is the war against the natural being waged so totally as in "Super Natural" British Columbia. Last summer, I spent a week with my wife's family at a fishing camp three hundred miles north of the US border in BC. Twenty years ago, it was a remote wilderness lodge surrounded by old growth forests unending to the taiga, the Pacific coast, the Great Plains, and the US border. Today a constricting network of logging roads and huge clearcuts are choking the wildness from the land, unraveling the fabric that supports Grizzly, Wolverine, Fisher, Moose, Caribou, Lynx and Wolf — and BC's economically important recreational fishing business. The BC timber industry and their lap dogs in Parliament are creating a 300 mile wide swath of destruction through southern British Columbia.

That is why there is a Wolf pack in Glacier; why there are more Grizzlies in the North Cascades; why Lobos, Jaguars, and Ocelots are being seen in Big Bend, the San Pedro, and the Peloncillos. Before, visits were occasionally made to the borderlands of the US from population cores in Mexico or Canada; but today, bad as the clearcutting, roadbuilding, overgrazing, and poaching are in the States, it is better in Montana, Washington, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas than it is in British Columbia, Alberta, Sonora, Chihuahua, Durango and Coahuila. Now, they are coming for more visits — and to stay — in order to escape the devastation and persecution at home.

The wild refugia to the north and the south are no more. The wild country of the American West must stand on its own as a habitat for big bears, spotted cats, and Wolves. It is our job to insure that that habitat exists.

Saving the Animas

by Steve Marlatt

Every so often, the Feds outdo themselves and actually propose something good for the land! Such is the case with the proposed one-third million acre Animas National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico. The refuge would contain the majority of the Animas range, now a private holding in the "bootheel" of southwestern New Mexico.

The area is one of the most diverse ecological regions in the Southwest, located at the junction of the Chihuahuan and Madrean Biogeographic Provinces and near the eastern extension of the Sonoran Province. A northern extension of the Sierra Madre Occidental in Mexico, the range provides a corridor for many species of flora and fauna to their northernmost habitat, and for some species their only habitat in the US.

The proposed Animas NWR would support more mammal species than any National Wildlife Refuge or National Park in the US. It would also support 99 species of birds, 22% of the bird species known in New Mexico. The Ridge-nosed Rattlesnake, a species listed as Threatened by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, is found in the US only in the Animas and nearby San Luis Mountains. Other rare species here include the Coatimundi and Mexican Turkey — both on the State-endangered list — the White-sided Jack Rabbit, Montezuma Quail, and two cacti. Also present are Coues' Whitetail Deer, Javelina, Black Bear, Golden Eagle, Prairie Falcon, and Mexican Junco, as well as many other native species common to the Southwest.

The area has an incredible aura of solitude and beauty. Many Animas peaks feature panoramic vistas of the Big Hatchets, Alamo Huecos, Peloncillos, Chiricahuas, Gila, Cooke's, and several mountain ranges in Mexico. The Animas range is the highest in southwestern New Mexico, west of the Rio Grande and south of the Mogollon Plateau, and is bisected longitudinally by the Continental Divide. Located between the sparsely settled Animas and Playas valleys, the area is extremely wild, with most developments there dating back to near the turn of the century. Cloverdale, a mining camp turned ghost town, and Antelope Wells, population 3, are the major metropolises in the area. The only eyesore is the nearby Phelps Dodge Hildalgo copper smelter, which employs most the area's residents. When this eventually shuts down, the entire region can become a defacto wilderness.

The political mechanics for acquiring the land should be relatively easy. The ranch totals 322,000 acres, with 226,000 acres of private land and 95,000 acres of private, state, and BLM grazing leases. It is currently owned by a Mexican resident, with corporate offices in Phoenix, who is anxious to sell, as cattle ranching is becoming an increasingly marginal investment. Finances to acquire the area are available through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, an account funded by excise taxes on energy and minerals established specifically for the acquisition of wildlife habitat. While there would be the loss of income from the ranch to the local economy, expenditure from the refuge budget and increased tourism should more than equal the loss.

The major obstacle to making the Animas a refuge is a lack of public knowledge and support. Few people have ever been to the area. New Mexico's Senator Jeff Bingaman plans to introduce an Animas NWR bill this session, but many letters of support will be required to gain its passage, especially with the current administration. Write to US Senators (Senate, Wash., DC 20510) and US representatives (House of Representatives, DC 20515), in support of the preservation of this national treasure. Once Bingaman's bill is introduced, letters to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees will also be needed.

NUSAGANDI PARK

A Kuna Indian-run Rainforest Preserve in Panama

by Barbara Dugelby

Tropical forests, covering only 7% of the land surface of the globe, harbor half of all living species on Earth and are the planet's oldest and most biologically diverse ecosystems. They are the most valuable reservoirs for new medicines, food sources, and other economic resources. More importantly, however, tropical forests play a vital role in regulating global climatic patterns, recycling nutrients, generating soils, maintaining the quality of the atmosphere and of fresh waters, controlling floods, and controlling various potential crop pests and disease carriers.

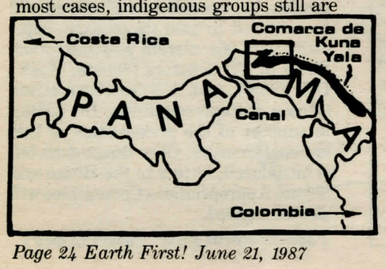
The planet stands to lose nearly all of these forests in the next 50-100 years due to humans' materialistic greed. Such destruction is already causing a mass extinction of plant and animal species. Most of Earth's tropical forests are located in developing countries where population growth, huge national debts and exploitation by multinational corporations place heavy pressure on the countries to "utilize" the land. In the tropics, forests are disappearing at nearly 100 acres a minute, including more than one acre a minute lost in Central America. Current estimates of deforestation in Panama, Costa Rica and Honduras are 50,000, 65,000, and 80,000 hectares per year, respectively. [A hectare approximately equals 2.4 acres.]

Prior to the arrival of the European conquerors in Mesoamerica, a rich mosaic of indigenous cultures existed, intimately linked to the diverse terrestrial and marine environments. Today, however, after nearly 500 years of European domination, over two-thirds of the original forest cover in Central America has been eliminated and along with it, many of the indigenous peoples.

Only a few large tracts of the original forest remain: the Peten region of eastern Guatemala and Belize, the Mosquitia region of eastern Honduras and Nicaragua, the Talamanca Mountain Range between Costa Rica and Panama, the Comarca of San Blas in northeastern Panama, and Panama's Darien Province. Conservationists are beginning to recognize that if any of these areas are to be saved, we must turn our attention to the native dwellers of the forest for their knowledge and centuries-old practices. Indigenous tribes of these regions are struggling fiercely to retain some of their cultural, political and economic autonomy.

Despite successful attempts by all Central American countries to implement systems of national parks and other protected areas, up to now indigenous reserves have been looked upon solely as geopolitical divisions, rather than as indigenous wildlands (lands managed in a way that preserves the natural resources, while still allowing human occupation). Early attempts to establish indigenous reserves and preserve tribal lands and natural resources in Central America often failed to incorporate indigenous groups' strategies for land use, natural resource management, and cultural self-determination. Indians have historically been viewed as wards of the state, separate from the national, political, and economic structure, yet dependent upon its paternalistic support.

This view is slowly being replaced by an awareness of the ecological values of tropical forests and of wildlands in general, as well as an acknowledgement of the complex and ecologically sound inter-relationships between indigenous peoples and the forest biome. Yet in most cases, indigenous groups still are



Photos by Barbara Dugelby.

not incorporated into the establishment and management of protected areas.

One rare exception to this failure is found among the Kuna Indians of Panama, who are presently involved in a unique effort to protect their natural resources and, consequently, their culture and autonomy. The Kuna, working with scientists and technical advisors from national and international organizations, are creating a botanical park and wildlife refuge on the southwestern edge of their reservation, the Comarca de San Blas.

The park will encompass more than 20 square kilometers, surrounding the spot where a recently-constructed road became the first to penetrate the reservation. The road, funded by AID [the US Agency for International Development], will connect the coast of the San Blas at Carti, a small Kuna village where an airstrip is located, to the interior of Panama near a town called El Llano and will be open to travel year-round. The Kuna realized that in order to control traffic into the reservation they must establish a permanent residence at the penetration point. The park will offer nature trails, observation posts and research facilities for scientists and scientific tourists. More important to the Kuna, however, the park will serve as a barrier against the rapidly advancing army of peasant farmers and cattle ranchers, for whom the road has opened easy access to the virgin forests of San Blas.

The Kuna Indians are one of the three major indigenous groups of Panama, and perhaps the most highly organized and autonomous tribe in Central America. When the Spaniards arrived, the Carib-Kuna were dispersed across the isthmus as far as the Pacific coast and were naked, body-painting cannibals. Today, however, they do not eat human flesh and the adults wear clothing. The men wear western-style trousers and polyester shirts, while the women still wear the traditional Kuna dress of colorful, hand-sewn "mola" blouses and wrap around shirts. A married women can typically be identified by her short hair and nose ring — a sign of beauty to the Kuna. The native language of the Kuna shows few signs of deterioration, yet many of the men speak Spanish and English, and Spanish is taught in many of the schools.

In the Kuna religion there are evil spirits, devils, dragons and monsters which reside in many of the objects and forces of nature. Huge rocks, gnarled trees, hurricanes, a sudden bend in the river, and in fact, any danger of the environment is the abiding place of evil spirits that must be appeased by means of ceremonial chants. The Kuna also worship the Creator god, the Sun god, and the Earth mother.

Today the majority of Kuna, with a population of more than 30,000, live in a sizable reservation called the Comarca de Kuna Yala, which was established by the Panamanian government in 1938. It is an isolated stretch of tropical jungle, averaging 16 miles in width, extending from the continental divide to the seashore for 124 miles along the Caribbean coast of Panama.

The Kuna are dispersed among 50 small islands off the coast of San Blas and 12 mainland villages. Most of these villages, holding between 100 and 5000 inhabitants, are tightly packed mazes of thatch houses, which seem to float inches above the Caribbean Sea. Most of the island communities are located within a half mile of the coast, so as to exploit both marine and mainland resources.

This region is classified as tropical wet forest with high humidity, a mean average temperature of about 80 degrees fahrenheit, and an average yearly rainfall of more than 100 inches. From east to west the land becomes steadily more mountainous.

The Kuna territory features a wide variety of marine and terrestrial associations: coral reefs, islands, evergreen hardwood forests mixed with agricultural plots, coastal lagoons, gallery forests, and mangroves. Elevation varies from sea level to 950 meters. The region encompasses three life zones: lowland wet, very wet, and wet premontane tropical forest. Endangered species of the area include the Jaguar, Giant Anteater, Harpy Eagle, Baird's Tapir, crocodilians, and marine turtles. Species from South America and from Central America form unique communities here, as this part of the isthmus forms a type of land bridge.

The Kuna practice a mix of slash and burn cultivation of subsistence crops and a more permanent, yet not labor intensive, plantation agriculture. The latter consists mainly of tree crops, with plots along the coast and as far as three kilometers inland into the dense jungle.

The Comarca has been protected in its natural state largely because it is inaccessible, and also because the Kuna are recognized by the Panamanian government as the sole owners of the land and the only ones with rights to settle on it. Until recently there were no roads connecting San Blas to the rest of Panama, and the only way to enter the Comarca was either from Colon by boat or from Panama by plane.

Protecting their territory is more difficult for the Kuna than other similar groups because their villages are such a great distance from the threatened border. And while the reservation is supposed to be legally protected from incursion of non-Kuna farmers, there is no physical or financial support from the Panamanian government for protection.

Many Panamanians consider it their national right to be free to move in and take land from the vast stretches of uncultivated forest. The government's sympathies lie with the non-Kuna squatters, as they see great need for economic development.

For several years now, the Kuna have watched the peasants from the interior of Panama slash and burn their way toward Kuna land. Cattle ranching — producing cheap, lean beef — is the main force behind the migration of peasant farmers. Peasants clear an area of forest and farm it for a few years until the thin soil cover is so depleted of nutrients that it cannot support crops. Big ranchers then buy the land for cattle grazing. Within a few more years, the eroded, sun-baked land will not even support cattle. Without the opportunity to sell their farmland to ranchers for cash and move on, farmers could be given incentive to farm the land in a more ecologically and economically sound manner.

These threats of encroachment into the Kuna reservation were suddenly compounded by the Panamanian government's decision in the early 1970s to build a road to link the coast of San Blas to the rest of Panama. The road, an offshoot of the Pan-American Highway, would be funded by USAID.

The Kuna were at first ambivalent about the idea of a road. More and more young Kuna were traveling to Panama City to study and work. Yet transportation to and from Panama City, provided only by launch or by plane, was growing more expensive. In addition, many communities had become dependent on commercial goods; and the cost of shipping such products as eggs, meat, and canned goods by plane was high. Land access to the Comarca was seen as a possible solution to these problems.

On the other hand, in heated debate among the Kuna, some argued that the road would open the reservation to unwanted cultural, economic, and environmental penetration, were traffic not controlled. By the late 1970s changes had occurred that swayed Kuna opinion in favor of the road. Increasing population pressure in the reservation had brought an increase in travel to and from the interior. Also, the growth of a strong power base within the Comarca gave the Kuna confidence in their ability to control the negative consequences of the road.

Instead of looking upon the Llano-Carti road as threat to their sovereignty, the Kuna viewed it as an opportunity to protect their way of life. They realized that their first step should be establishing a presence at the reservation's edge.

Initially, the Kuna attempted to establish a colony at the spot where the road broke into the reservation. This effort was led virtually single-handedly by a Kuna youth, Guillermo Archibald, who had received training at the agricultural school at Mandiago, Panama. Archibald worked with other key Kuna political leaders to farm the land on a small scale at a spot called Udirbi. However, after several years the Kuna had little to show for their labors.

Subsequently, a study of the social and environmental consequences of the road was conducted by forestry technicians from CATIE, *Centro Agrinomico de Investigacion y Ensenanza* (Center for Tropical Agricultural Research). The study informed AID of Kuna attitudes and actions at Udirbi, and raised the issue of land use in an ecologically fragile area of virgin rainforest. The study concluded that the climate and soils of the region were unsuitable for agriculture, particularly livestock. The Indians' project had failed when coastal techniques proved inappropriate to the mountains.

This assessment is supported by the visual proof of subsistence agriculture and livestock raising along the Panamanian side of the El Llano-Carti road. A drive along the road reveals the stark contrast between the stripped land on the Panamanian side and the thick, unbroken forest inside the Kuna reservation. During the dry season, the cattle pastures are brown and eroded, with clear blue sky overhead, while the jungle remains moist and tufted with

mist and low-hanging clouds.

The technicians from CATIE advised the Kuna that traditional subsistence agriculture was inappropriate at the Udirbi site, and that leaving the forest untouched would be a sound alternative. Such a concept was not unfamiliar to the Kuna who, for centuries, have declared areas of virgin forest sacred and off limits to manipulation by humans, save for extraction of plants for medicinal purposes; creating literally "botanical parks." There remained the problem, however, of demonstrating to the Panamanian government that the area was being "utilized." Due to the close proximity to Panama City — two hours by car, since the road had been built — and the unstudied biological resources of the area, CATIE technicians suggested creating a forest park and wildlife refuge with facilities for "scientific tourism." The Kuna, strongly in favor of the idea, subsequently approached the Panama-based Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) for technical and financial assistance.

In mid-1982, financial support was received from AID to conduct preliminary studies of the Udirbi region and train Kuna for forest park management and planning at CATIE headquarters in Costa Rica. Although CATIE provided much technical assistance in park planning and management, the Kuna defined the objectives and managed the organizational aspects and the personnel of the project.

In early 1983, the Kuna presented the Inter-American Foundation with an ambitious proposal for what has come to be known as the PEMASKY, *00.0ojecto de Estudio para el Manejo de Areas Silvestres de Kuna Yala* (Project for the Study and Management of the Kuna Wildlands). Co-contributors to the project are CATIE, the Tropical Science Center in Costa Rica, STRI, AID, the Panamanian agency *Recursos Naturales Renovables* (RENARE), US armed forces based in the Canal area, World Wildlife Fund-US, the Inter-American Foundation, and the McArthur Foundation.

The first two years of the PEMASKY project were devoted to a series of studies by scientists: inventories of flora and fauna of the region, land use capability mapping and aerial photographs and topographical surveys for the demarcation of the border. A zoologist and a botanist were hired to document the flora and fauna. The botanist discovered 15 new plant species. In the small area surveyed by the scientists, a few hundred acres surrounding the base camp of the park, already 80 endangered species have been identified.

The park itself, the name of which was changed to Nusagandi (or place of the rats) when the agricultural project was abandoned and the camp headquarters relocated (the headquarters, as well as the whole park, are called *Nusagandi*), will encompass a 20 square kilometer area. The area will be left virgin except for the headquarters area, where a few buildings for lodging, dining and research will be built. The surrounding forest will have trails and observation sites and, eventually, several substations for scientific research. Facilities for scientists will include an herbarium, library, and research rooms.

Already five trails have been cut into the forest surrounding Nusagandi. The Kuna plan to label plant species along the paths in Latin, Spanish, and Kuna. This will serve as an educational tool not only for the scientists and ecological tourists, but also for young Kuna from the islands. Each of the paths is given a Kuna name, relating it to a special feature of the ecosystem through which it passes. An example is *Sendero Wedar*, or path of the wild hogs, for which this portion of the Comarca is well known.

The park will be open for scientific use — mainly surveys, species identification and labeling — as early as fall 1987. After another year or so, the Kuna hope to open the park for wider public use, including students and the larger Kuna population. Advertising for environmental tourists is not expected before 1989 or 90, since such visitors would require a level of comfort beyond what is now offered. The Kuna intend to establish a shuttle service to transport visitors between the park and Panama City.

It is hoped that scientists studying in the forest will be accompanied by Kuna Indians. New discoveries would list the Kuna as co-investigators, since the Kuna have supplied information to the scientists and in many cases classified the new plants long before modern scientists.

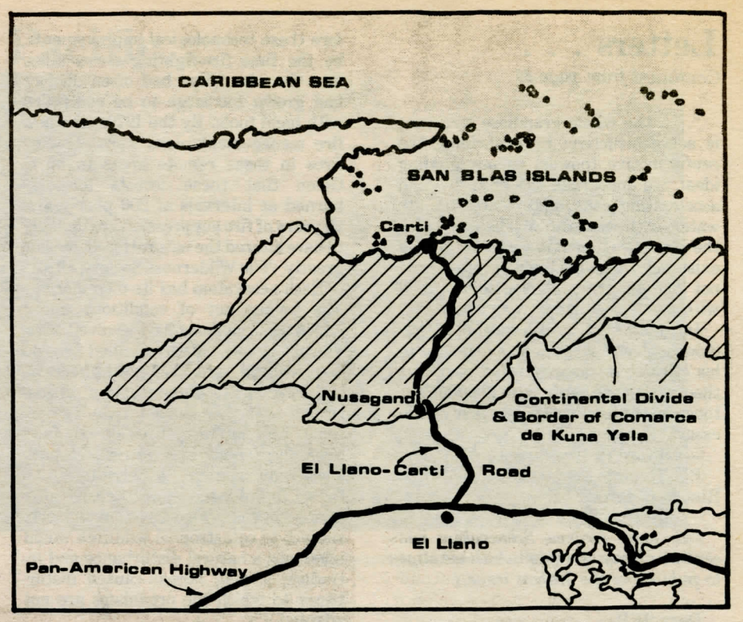
While the initial focus of the project is on the area immediately surrounding the road, plans are being developed to demarcate the entire reservation border, a distance of more than 250 kilometers. (The park will not encompass the whole reservation, but if Biosphere Reserve status is gained, this might include the entire reservation.) Kuna forest rangers are being trained to maintain the park and patrol the demarcated border.

Perhaps the most important step in this project will be acquiring formal international recognition for the project and hopefully the entire reservation. Such recognition would give the park "legal teeth" necessary for "minimum adequate protection."

Presently, the only category of protected area that seems appropriate to this project is the Biosphere Reserve. A concept which surfaced in 1970 at UNESCO's 16th General Conference session, the Biosphere Reserve provides a basic framework for integrating wildlands management and indigenous peoples. The goal of the programme is to promote a balanced relationship between people and their environment, and thus to serve human needs by promoting sustainable, ecologically sound development.

The Biosphere Reserve Programme has conceptually linked the movement for the establishment of national parks and protected areas to the lands and traditions of indigenous cultures. The programme recognizes the need to evaluate the shortcomings of existing modern technologies and to proceed toward local, participatory, and long-term solutions to natural resources issues.

In one important respect, the Kuna project differs from other Biosphere Reserves in Central America — the Kuna are much more than participators; they are in charge. The Biosphere Reserve, should such a designation be given, will be established, managed, and integrated into the local society by the Kuna themselves. Interestingly, the concept of biosphere reserve, which works to preserve representative portions of Earth, coincides with the indigenous concept of *Kuna Yala* (Kuna land or territory) being a part of *Abia Yala* (Mother Earth) — a concept with provides cultural and spiritual reasons for the land's conservation.



The PEMASKY project presently employs 25 people, most of whom are Kuna. Volunteers from the islands assist in construction and boundary demarcation. In their search for funds, Kuna have turned primarily to agencies that will give money with few or no strings attached — grants that aid self-empowerment.

For Central America, and other areas containing indigenous populations struggling to retain their homelands, indigenous-run protected areas are seen more and more as a potential alternative to state-run parks. In their efforts to keep foreign intrusion at bay, the Kuna have utilized both internal and external forces to protect their autonomy. As one of the Kuna chiefs described their methods at a speech before the General Congress: "We are learning things from the foreigners that will enable us to protect San Blas from them." (Chapin 1983)

Barb Dugelby, EF! Texas contact, studied in Panama last fall with a grant from the Earth First! Foundation. Barb will soon move to San Francisco to join the staff of the Environmental Project on Central America, while continuing her EF! work.

Clearcutting and grazing on the edge of the Preserve.

Letters . . .

Continued from page 3

roads are about to be abandoned, and therefore the area is roadless, is something else.

Nobody objects to having to fight hard to win wilderness designation for an area. That is par for the course. On the other hand, in this case, some of us in Virginia doubt the political wisdom of seeking to close this popular and long-established road system. There is the possibility of a public backlash against any wilderness if a positive effort were made to get these roads closed.

The 65,000 acre area is mostly wild, rugged mountain country. In 1969, wilderness advocates noted its wilderness potential and carefully explored it. But roads plainly divided the area. The Virginia Chapter of Sierra Club recognizes that two or maybe three separate wildernesses could be established consistent with the definition of wilderness in the Wilderness Act, and has so expressed itself in writing.

The information in this letter is offered not in an attempt to convince the reader that there should not be a Shenandoah Wilderness of any sort. Rather the intent is to suggest why there is a difference of opinion on the subject and why the Virginia Chapter has declined to endorse the proposal as currently presented.

—Ernie Dickerman, Buffalo Gap, VA

SFB,

I write to congratulate GASP and EF! for shutting down Phelps Dodge Smelter in Douglas, Arizona, and to say be careful! I live in Anaconda, Montana, former home of The Anaconda Company and later ARCO's smelter that was closed in 1980. Do not trust EPA or anyone else involved in the demolition of this plant. I was involved in the demolition of our own smelter. I saw EPA inspectors bullshitted by the contractor into believing that things were ok. I watched as asbestos (tons) was carelessly mishandled. I saw tons of flue dust containing such lethal components as inorganic arsenic, cadmium, lead, beryllium, and many other heavy and toxic metals — all supposedly cleaned up and buried on the site.

I watched as EPA found high concentrations of this stuff all around our town, some so high that nothing will grow there. Yet they tell us that the levels in Anaconda are nothing to be alarmed at. I assume that the Douglas smelter contains many of the same things. It has been 7 years since the Hill, as it was called, was shut down. While the damage of 75 years is slowly reclaimed, and reluctantly by a foot dragging Anaconda Minerals and an inefficient and largely uncaring EPA, some good things are happening.

Almost immediately the birds returned. Species that had been gone from Anaconda for years returned.

EF! and GASP must redouble their efforts not only in Arizona but in Mexico. Specifically at Cananea's smelter which, coincidentally, is owned by Anaconda Minerals— the same company that turned the mountain valley in which Anaconda sits into an ecologic disaster area. Now their damage is done long distance. A recent report in our local newspaper states that all the mountain lakes in the Anaconda Pintlar Wilderness and the Bitterroot-Selway Wilderness are being affected by acid rain from Cananea and the Four Corners Power Plants. As major weather systems move north, carrying the sulphur laden clouds, the first major geographic barriers they hit are the Rockies.

So the battle may have been won but the war rages.

—John (I'm not afraid to let them know my name) Marthaller

Dear Editor:

Your journal gets better all the time. In the May issue (or "Beltane" — what *is* this exotic jargon?) I liked especially the article on the "First Ecologists" by George Wuerthner. Exactly on the mark. When I mentioned these matters in an article in *Outside* Magazine in 1983 and at greater length in the book *Beyond the Wall* in 1984, I received nothing for my pains but the usual reflex abuse from white middleclass liberals with their queer and perverse racial guilt neurosis. "Reverse racism," as they call it nowadays.

"Them there kneejerk liberals," says my neighbor Foster Bundy, "they cain't say the word shit even when their mouths is full of it." True fact, Foster. But it is a writer's duty to record the truth, always the truth, no matter who may be offended. The Alaskan natives have no more right to immunity from criticism than any other group, faction or interest in our society.

In reply to certain letters from readers who ask for the basis of my optimistic belief that the military-industrial state will begin to disintegrate in about 50 years, I refer them back to my response to A.B. Schmookler in your August 1986 issue. There I wrote, plain for any reader with eyes to see, as follows:

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Letters . . .

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". . . the whole grandiose structure is self-destructive: by enshrining the profit motive (power) as our guiding ideal, we encourage the intensive and accelerating consumption of land, air, water — the natural world — on which the structure depends for its continued existence. A house built on greed cannot long endure . . ." And so on. Read with some care, lads.

Incidentally, I am still waiting for Mr. Schmookler to reply to my response to his critique of "anarchy" and anarchist theory. The one reply he made does not touch on the principal points in my little essay.

—Edward Abbey, Oracle, AZ

P.S. Hope to see you all at the North Rim Rendezvous.

[ed. note: Andrew Schmookler has sent us a lengthy reply, which we hope to publish in the Mabon issue.]

Dear SFB

Earth First! devoted space in three successive editions to the issue of prescribed burning in our National Parks and natural areas. So far, much more space has been given to advocates of burning in Kings Canyon, Yosemite, and Sequoia National Parks than to those who question frequent burning in plant communities where we do not have scientific evidence of the *natural* fire frequency, nor of the composition of plants under uninhibited lightning fire regime. (I agree with Edward Fritz's article on fire in the Yule 86 issue.) Such evidence would include fire scars in ancient (not historical) tree rings and pollen studies.

Prescribed burn advocates say their goal is to return forests to more natural conditions. They say that lightning fires have been suppressed for 60 years, so that excessive fuel has accumulated. From the 1970s on, forest managers not only let lightning fires burn (except near hotels and campgrounds) but also conducted frequent prescribed burns.

The effects of past fire control have been exaggerated, at least in some instances. For example, in many of the remote, roadless coniferous forests in the mountains and plateaus of the West, fire control did not become effective until around 1950 with the advent of smoke jumping and slurry bombing. Before these technological improvements, by the time fire-fighting crews hiked into the area, fires had often died or had grown too large to be controlled with hand tools. By the 1970s, the new fire management plans were allowing fires in these remote areas to burn. Given that these forests formerly burned at intervals of 200 plus years, 20 years of fire suppression are unlikely to have altered the natural forest mosaic greatly. (The Wilderness Society, 1986)

Each ecosystem has its own more or less unique set of conditions under which its organisms have evolved. Frequent, low intensity, controlled fires do not have the same ecological effects as the infrequent, high-intensity, uncontrolled fires that shaped many ecosystems. Low intensity fires do not fully open the canopy and do not set back succession as much as high-intensity fires. To introduce low-intensity prescribed burns in an ecosystem formerly subject to catastrophic wildfires would eliminate a natural disturbance and introduce a new, human-caused disturbance to which the organisms are not adapted.

One questionable technique that the prescribed burners use is backing fire. In the Marotta-Jaenecke article promoting prescribing burning (Nov. 86 issue) there is a photo of a fire backing down a slope in Yosemite National Park. Backing fires maintain heat for a long time and with hot temperatures occurring close to the ground. Headfires move rapidly and reach their greatest temperatures at higher levels. (Davis and Martin 1960)

Another important area of study often overlooked by the prescribed burners is the apparent equilibrium between litter accumulation and decomposition after a few years. Some suggest a leveling off of flammability after the initial increase. (Lemon 1949)

By far the most important source of fire is and has been man for several thousand years. Man caused fire long before recorded history, which generally began with the arrival of Europeans. From historical accounts in journals, we learn that Indians used fire as a tool for agriculture and hunting, and as a weapon of war. More recently, many disastrous fires have resulted from logging activities, roadbuilding, and other man-caused disturbances. We should not use studies of *historical* fire frequency to determine *natural* fire frequency.

We ask for scientific evidence of the natural condition to which the prescribed burners want to return the forest, including the composition of all plants, not just Sequoias. Without such evidence, how can we ever eliminate prescribed burns and let Mother Earth achieve her own natural diversity?

Unfortunately, though the ecological questions have not been answered, Park Service "experts" are burning some National Parks, with no cut-off dates. They still speak of "excessive fuel accumulations" after almost ten years of burning, but they mix in the issue of "visitor safety" so that we cannot be sure how much burning they are doing to protect hotels, campgrounds, and crowds, as distinguished from restoring Mother Earth.

National Parks, Wilderness Areas, and other natural areas should be places where we watch nature run its course as much as possible. We have plenty of other areas to observe the effects of prescribed burning. Natural areas should serve as scientific replicate areas for comparative study. Since the prescribed burn advocates seem incapable of giving us scientific evidence at this time, let's stop prescribed burns until they produce such evidence.

—James Redwolf Jackson
Rt.3 Box 113
Cleveland, TX 77327

Editor,

I love reading about the people who fight for the wild places. I support them with all my heart. I find, however, few articles about the fight for the wild land that exists around the cancerous cities. Too many people say, "Why try to protect it?" They say it is too close to a city, there is no hope, it is not true wilderness. To them I say BULL SHIT. Any remaining open land is worth fighting for. In the open land surrounding Tucson there are still deer, bobcats, and mountain lions. The developers are an evil just as bad, if not worse, than any Federal agents. There are ways to stop them. Many small developers work on a tight budget and delays mean a lot of money to them. Some go bankrupt. Push them, delay them (ANY way possible), give them hell. If you have a piece of land that you treasure and it belongs to a developer, make it your land to defend. The plants and animals who have the misfortune to live near a city have as much right to be defended, if

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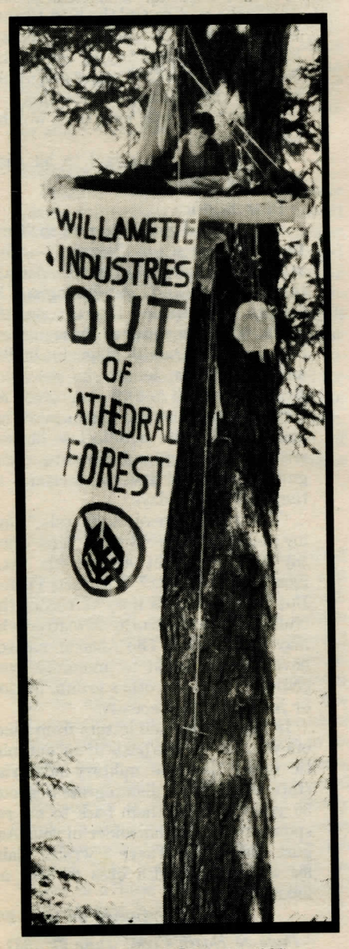

Since Earth First! was founded in 1980, Earth First! activists have traveled to remote wilderness areas to put their beliefs into action. Facing difficult odds and taking great risks, Earth First!ers have been involved in non-violent campaigns to protect endangered wildlife habitat around the U.S. These campaings have given Earth First! its hard-earned reputation for uncompromising activisim.

In 1981 Earth First! formed its first SWAAT Team (Save Wilderness At Any Time), and went on the road to recuit new supporters in the struggle to defend the wilderness. Now called the Nomadic Action Group, (or NAG), we are still working on behalf of the wilderness.

NAG volunteers are working around the country to keep the exclamation point on Earth First! by putting their bodies on the line in defense of wild nature.

Like, the rest of the Earth First! movement, NAG has no paid staff or main office. And, like the rest of the Earth First! movement,we depend on Earth First!ers like yourself who believe the wilderness needs more defenders.

So if you can't always be out on the front lines yourself, you can help support someone who can. Someone who believes, as you do, that there can be no compromises in the defense of the Earth!

Thank You,
Mike Roselle

Mike Roselle
Earth First!

If you are interested in being a part of the Nomadic Action Group, drop us a card or use the form provided here.

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Box 83 Canyon Ca 94516

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I am interested in supporting Earth First! Direct Actions, and would like to receive NAG action alerts..... ☐

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Greens, Deep Ecology, Ecodefense, Bioregionalism, and Animal Rights

by Ronnie Z. Hawkins

The Green movement, a newly emerging political movement that is both global in scope and firmly anchored to each local region at the grassroots level, is destined to be of great import to those concerned with the status of nonhuman animals in our society. Closely allied with deep ecology and bioregionalism, Green thinking embodies an alteration in our perception of the human organism: no longer seen as separate from and superior to all the other components of the ecosystem, our species is placed in context as one among many interdependent forms of life, with the attainment of a *sustainable balance* among all life forms being the goal in designing our human activities. Translation of this viewpoint into political action is the challenge of Green organizations.

Green political organizations are springing up around the globe, but the West German *die Grunen*, the Greens, are the best known and have a platform that provides a helpful model for examining Green politics and its ramifications for animal issues. The policies of die Grunen are based on four fundamental principles: ecology, social responsibility, grassroots democracy, and nonviolence. The principle of ecology entails holistic thinking as well ecological science, and deep ecology as opposed to a shallow environmentalism which seeks ecosystem protection solely out of human-centered concern. Social responsibility has been defined as "social justice and assurance that the poor and the working class will not get hurt by programs to restructure the economy and our consumer society ecologically," (Capra and Spretnak) and the *Federal Programme* of die Grunen contains guidelines for extending the rights of human individuals. The political power of the West German Greens is rooted in grassroots democracy, with the Greens coming from citizens' movements, including peace, antinuclear, ecology, feminist, and consumer groups. Priority is given to participatory democracy, with most decision-making occurring at the level of semi-autonomous local units. The fourth principle, nonviolence, refers to a cessation of both personal and institutional violence. It is reflected in the Greens' call to end the nuclear arms race and other forms of militarism; end the oppression of women, children, and minority groups; end the economic exploitation of Third World peoples; and end the exploitation of nature and nonhuman animals. Three other principles are sometimes added to the first four: decentralization of all social structures into smaller units that will have greater capacity for self-direction; post-patriarchal politics, empowering women at all levels of governance and incorporating feminist analysis in policy-making; and spirituality, appreciating the unity of all life on a spiritual level. All seven principles necessarily intermesh.

"Deep ecology" is the line of thinking that forms the philosophical backbone of the Green movement; it is now being elaborated by philosophers such as Arne Naess, George Sessions, and Bill Devall. Its roots are traceable to the works of Spinoza, Heidegger, Saint Francis, American Indian religion, and some Eastern traditions. The writings of earlier thinkers such as Henry Thoreau, John Muir, and Aldo Leopold, and poets Walt Whitman, Robinson Jeffers, and Gary Snyder have also played a major role in the development of this philosophy. Deep ecology seeks to understand humans within the context of the entire biosphere, and this "total field" model allows us to envision seemingly separate entities as interwoven within a single living system. In keeping with recent advances in physics and biology, natural phenomena are seen as vital, cyclical, interconnected and diverse in qualitative ways; in addition to being describable under certain conditions as mechanical, separate, and reducible to quantifiable but nonliving parts. Deep ecology grants what has been called *biospherical egalitarianism* (Naess), that is, "the equal right to live and blossom," to all life forms. Deep ecology embodies biocentrism as opposed to anthropocentrism: it is a matter of putting life at the center of our concern — all life, life in balance.

A full grasp of deep ecology goes beyond science and ethics to a sense of spiritual oneness with the cosmos; its implication for our status as humans, far from an anthropocentrically feared diminution, is elevating and transformative. In the words of Australian activist John Seed:

Alienation subsides. The human is no longer an outsider, apart. Your humanness is recognized as being merely the most recent stage of your existence, and as you stop identifying exclusively with this chapter, you start to get in touch with yourself as mammal, as vertebrate, as a species only recently emerged from the rainforest.

An integral part of deep ecology is awareness of the need to take action to rechannel the present destructive course of human activity. Seed continues:

As the fog of amnesia disperses, there is a transformation in your relationship to other species, and in your commitment to them. . . "I am protecting the rainforest" develops to "I am part of the rainforest protecting myself. I am that part of the rainforest recently emerged into thinking."

In *Deep Ecology*, Devall and Sessions discuss the obligation to engage in nonviolent witnessing of, and direct action to halt, the injuries being inflicted upon the planet — action which can range from public speaking, filing lawsuits, and educating politicians to sitting down in front of bulldozers. They liken *ecological resistance* to befriending another species or a mountain and taking steps to preserve the greater neighborhood. In his foreword to *Ecodefense*, Edward Abbey extends this analogy by comparing the assault upon American wilderness to a stranger breaking into one's house, threatening one's family with weapons, and ransacking the place, a crime that one must defend oneself against by whatever means are necessary. Detailing the techniques of "monkeywrenching," Dave Foreman goes beyond civil disobedience to include the incapacitation of the machinery of destruction in this defense, being careful to exclude violence to human or nonhuman life in such measures. Foreman states that widespread and serious ecodefense could protect millions of acres of wilderness and hundreds of threatened life forms more effectively than a Congressional act or an army of game wardens. He concludes:

John Muir said that if it ever came to a war between the races, he would side with the bears. That day has arrived.

(The Development Activities in Roadless Nonselected plan of the US Forest Service aims to cut over 75,000 miles of new roads into presently roadless areas and in many cases log from the center outward, thus destroying most of the last large areas of natural diversity in the continental US. Of 140 million acres of undeveloped public lands, only about 24 million are likely to be protected as Wilderness; the rest face ecological devastation within five years.)

If deep ecology forms the philosophical foundation of the Green movement, the translation of its concepts into appropriate human activity unique to each particular place occurs through bioregionalism. An awakening that has been taking shape predominantly in North America, bioregionalism has to do with reintroducing a sense of *place* into our homogenized Western culture, rediscovering how the web of life interplays in a natural region — be it a watershed, mountain range, coastal plain, or whatever — binding together the topography, climate, floral, faunal, and human communities found therein. Emphasizing that the human has a rightful place within each bioregion (or at least within many of them), Peter Berg has introduced the term *reinhabitation*, signifying the active process of learning to *live in place* again. In *Reinhabiting a Separate Country*, Berg notes:

The boundaries of a bioregion are best described by people who have lived within it, through human recognition of the realities of living in place. All life on the planet is interconnected in a few obvious ways and in many more that remain barely explored. But there is a distinct resonance among living things and the factors which influence them that occurs specifically within each separate place on the planet. Discovering and describing that resonance is a way to describe a bioregion.

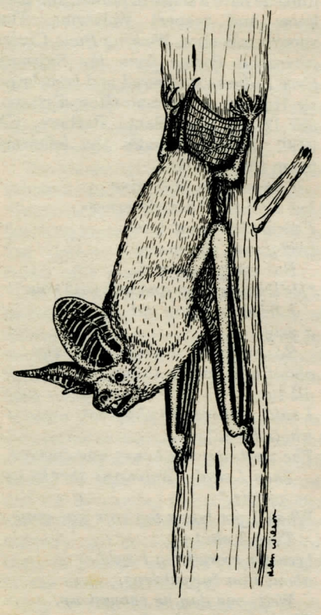
The American Indian tradition has always had a strong sense of place, and indeed the lack of a sense of place combined with an overemphasis on historical *time* has been an American Indian criticism of European culture (Deloria); even European societies, however, were by necessity adapted to the conditions of their particular geographical areas until the coming of industrialism, which offered the illusion of having freed us from that obligation. Bioregionalism is the obvious answer to the question "Decentralize into what?" — so logical a unit is it for human activity and organization that one wonders why our society has long overlooked the natural unit in deference to abstract demarcation arising out of historical contingency. But perhaps the most critical quality of a bioregion is found in this definition by Thomas Berry: "A bioregion is simply an identifiable geographic area whose life systems are self-contained, self-sustaining and self-renewing." Applying the criterion of sustainability necessitates recognizing an optimal, and certainly a maximal, limit determined by the human carrying capacity for each bioregional unit.

As Ozark organizer David Haenke discusses in his pamphlet *Ecological Politics and Bioregionalism*, recognition of natural or ecological law, as it operates specifically within each place, shows us what will work best for us too — the deceptive abstractions of economics notwithstanding, it is most efficient to operate *with* rather than *against* nature. The present deadlock of forcing a choice between nuclear power and acid rain thereby breaks down into utilizing wind power here, solar energy there, and biomass for fuel across the way, depending on what is most practical. The myth that we must accept topsoil-depleting monocultures of machine-harvested crops shuttled thousands of miles to market, or risk starvation, dissolves into embracing permaculture, integrated pest management, regional and seasonal crop variety, and community gardens. Decentralization into the bioregional unit also points us away from the nuclear weapons impass, since recognizing the natural law that sets a maximum size limit to self-governing groups and rediscovering participatory democracy enables us to let the nation-state, upon which planetary nuclear war is predicated, fade away.

The ways in which Green thinking will affect nonhuman animals are numerous. Most importantly, the anthropocentric bias that gave humans priority is swept away; while not all Green-oriented individuals agree on just what the animals' rights are, they recognize nonhuman animals as fellow beings whose concerns we must consider. On one level, the problems of animals cannot be separated from those of the ecosystem at large, just as those of humans as a group cannot, and hence all policies dealing with ecological considerations are relevant to animal species. But appreciation of animals as our spiritual relations entails protection of individual creatures as well as members of population groups, and the platform of the West Germans Greens reflects this.

The Federal Programme states, "We consider ourselves part of the Green movement throughout the world," and among the most important issues they address are global ones. Actions must be taken to reverse processes leading to species extinction — from whaling to rainforest destruction — and indeed the Federal Programme calls for an end to both. Trade in endangered species and products is to be prohibited. Assistance for birth control is to be supplied to overpopulated countries upon request. The destructiveness of the Western development model, which is particularly severe when abruptly applied to "underdeveloped" areas, is recognized in the provision: "Vocational training of the less developed peoples must be promoted not so as to impart to them the failed ideas of the industrialized countries but rather to allow them to solve their problems within their means and in a way appropriate to their environment." The Greens demand an immediate beginning to worldwide disarmament. Understanding that present economic policies underlie undesirable activities, die Grunen reject the major assumption made by both ends of the old political spectrum. Proclaiming "we are neither left nor right, we are in front," the Greens seek to correct the mistaken belief that infinite expansion of industrial production is possible, an error that both capitalist and communist governments have incorporated. While it may take centuries to restore the planet to a harmonious balance among its populations of life forms, implementation of the Green objectives will assure that our society heads in that direction.

With regard to their own country, the Greens' Programme contains detailed provisions to protect the ecosystem. The Greens state that "Protection of native animals and plants in their natural surroundings must be given priority over economic development plans." Large areas are to be restored as nature preserves, and exterminated native species reintroduced. Further drainage of shorelines, salt marshes, and wetlands is to be prohibited. Protection of natural areas is to be extended to the places where people live and work. "Open planning" is demanded for all new building, with environmental organizations to be included in all planning and granted the right to bring citizen lawsuits. Woods, thickets, and hedges removed by building are to be replaced. People formerly employed in road building are to be retrained,



perhaps in landscape preservation or energy conservation activities. A ministry of the environment is to be established to correct present habitat degradation. Pollution emissions are to be reduced immediately; emphasis is to be put upon recycling as well as minimizing and detoxifying waste.

Agriculture is to be closely scrutinized as to its effects on the ecosystem: "As far as damage to the environment goes, agriculture can now compete with industry." "The supreme aim of agricultural policy must be the healthy nutrition of the population," which presupposes healthful food produced through an ecological mode of production. Economic policies which have favored large, industrialized and chemically dependent methods of agriculture must be reversed. Monocultures and intensive livestock production are to be replaced by mixed farming, with on-site interchange of fertilizer, feeds, and energy. Chemical pesticides will eventually be supplanted by appropriate cropping, biological controls and soil health-enhancing measures; and during the readjustment strict limits will be imposed on pesticides.

In forestry, there is to be a shift away from even-age monoculture to mixed foliage of native types and differing age composition. Selective felling is to replace clear-cutting, with large machinery restricted, and chemical controls eventually banned. Corrective measures for fisheries include immediate reduction of catch quotas on depleted species; protected zones; closer controls over fishing grounds, mesh sizes, and closed seasons; a prohibition on catching young fish as fish meal; steps to reduce waste of fish; and support for techniques that favor small fishing companies.

The Programme includes provisions for protecting the rights of individual animals. "Animals must no longer be legally considered as 'objects,' but should be granted a special legal status." Strict regulations on the keeping and transport of domestic and captive wild animals are proposed. In agriculture, animals are to be kept in ways that are "fair to their species and nature," and battery farming abolished. Labeling of animal products as to their origin is demanded. Genetic manipulation of animals is rejected. Industrial animal production, in addition to its cruelty to animals, is to be curtailed also in the interests of small farms and human jobs.

Laboratory experimentation upon animals is addressed. ". . . thousands of animals daily undergo fatal experiments, e.g., for the testing of chemicals, weapons, medicines and cosmetics. . . . Experiments on animals should be replaced by suitable proven alternative methods (e.g., tissue culture or computer simulation in the medical sphere)." Repetition of experiments is to be avoided by establishment of a central data bank for all permitted animal experiments and the obligation to publish data already obtained. Responsibility for enforcement of animal protection guidelines in both agriculture and research is to be transferred from the ministry of agriculture to a ministry of the environment.

While this platform may not go far enough to satisfy the most committed animal rights activists, it clearly provides a framework within which many improvements in the status and condition of animals can be made. Since the Green program attempts to define an optimal scheme for human activities, what constitutes an ideal position for domestic animals must be reexamined. Some advocate the elimination of all human-animal dependence, including the phasing out of all farm and companion animals, allowing them to revert over generations back to autonomous wild beings. Others consider the small farm on which the animals are accorded a pleasant livelihood in exchange for certain "products," which might or might not include flesh, to be a mutually beneficial state.

The application of an ecological analysis to our companion animals is overdue: we must assume responsibility for correcting an overabundance of domesticated carnivores, the excess of which is not supportable by the ecosystem; and individuals of which, having weakened survival skills and disrupted social patterns, are doomed to suffering and starvation when not in the care of humans. An accounting must also be made of the meat being fed to them which may be contributing to a toll on marine mammals and other diminishing wildlife. Trade in wild-captured tropical birds, coral reef fish and exotic reptiles for the "pet" trade should be curtailed; and a total ban on removal of any wild species from its native habitat, except perhaps for the most pressing scientific purposes in the interest of that species, is not unthinkable. The fur trade likewise needs reevaluation, as does our relationship to so-called "pest" species. The shift to emphasis upon a holistic understanding of health should hasten the reduction of animal experimentation as we recognize the inherent limitations of the mechanistic "animal model": neither the importance of the total field of interaction in health, nor the importance of inner motivation in the pursuit of health, can be addressed adequately by studying coerced animals. Under the new model, much scientific progress can be anticipated in the area of interspecies communication, through noninvasive exploration of the language structure and social organization of the species in question — meeting on the animal's terms.

The West German Greens make no mention of vegetarianism in their Programme, although one would expect many adherents among them. Nor is there specific attention to hunting, but presumably if such is to occur it will be only under strict ecological guidelines. As we fashion an optimal level of human-animal interaction, we humans are faced with the choice of how predatory we shall allow ourselves to be. Our biological capacity provides us with flexibility. Arguments can be made both for the predatory role being as much our right as that of many other animals; and for the minimization of our carnivorous practices so as to be more in keeping with the dietary habits of the great apes, and hence with our own physiological adaptations. Another facet to the hunting question concerns the traditions of native peoples throughout the world. While appreciation of the cultural diversity of humans is perhaps as much a Green value as preservation of biological diversity, it must be admitted that in many areas irreversible changes have occurred, and where the introduction of technological advantages to traditional hunting is depleting the hunted species, such practices will have to be curtailed.

In working out their program, the West German Greens have not been free of conflict, which has arisen as much from the diversity of their constituency and the struggle to maintain noncompetitive ideals within the established structure of government as out of the difficulty of introducing new ideas into the political arena. Indeed it is remarkable how well the party has functioned. Temporary allies on legislation may come from either camp of old-paradigm politics, as illustrated by the Freiburg proposal to ban the salting of streets in winter because of its detrimental effect on trees; the right-leaning Christian Democrats voted with the Greens, while the traditionally left-wing Social Democrats put the protection of human jobs, in this case those of the street-salters, above ecological considerations. The split indicates the kinds of conflict and compromise that will arise in making the transition to an ecologically sound society, and demonstrates the need for the kind of conversion programs and job retraining called for by the platform. Obviously, since the vote that sent a Green contingent into the West German *Bundestag* in March of 1983 was barely over the mandatory 5% necessary for inclusion under their system of proportional representation, there is a long way to go before many of their visionary proposals begin to see implementation. What is perhaps most significant at this time is that the goals, in particular the overriding goal of sustainable human society, have been drawn up for all to see, and the Green voice in government will assure that they are kept before our eyes.

There are now Green political organizations in most European nations, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and Japan; and a Green organization is currently taking shape at the national level in the United States. The Cumberland Greens, the Los Angeles Greens, and other Green groups have already formed at the local and regional level, and they join several bioregions that have developed a high degree of ecopolitical awareness, such as Shasta (in northern California), and Ozarkia (straddling Arkansas and Missouri). In the "Green Alternative — It *Can* Happen Here," the concluding chapter of *Green Politics*, by Fritjof Capra and Charlene Spretnak, several possible forms are outlined for the Green movement in the US — including a network linking decentralized Green groups, a national membership organization that might include a political action committee but would not sponsor candidates, Green caucuses that could work within both the Republican and Democratic parties, and an actual Green party that would run candidates in elections. Since the US, unlike West Germany and some other countries, does not have proportional representation, and since a third party traditionally fares poorly in American politics, the success of an Green party appears dubious here at present. However, while electoral politics at the national level may present disadvantages for the Green movement, other US traditions are in its favor, from a historical beginning arising out of grassroots democracy, to recent activism in the peace and feminist movements and environmental and animal protection organizations; and many of these latter groups are beginning to appreciate the way in which their agendas merge past a certain point. Spretnak suggests five layers for Green organization: local, bioregional, state, macroregional, and national. The major thrust of most Green political activity will most likely take place at the local and bioregional level, with the preexisting bioregional consciousness in some areas providing a framework for initiating ecological politics. One such group is the Ozark Area Community Congress (OACC), which has convened five participatory congresses and maintains committees dealing with aspects of living in the Ozarks: agriculture and forestry, water, energy, education and economics, communities, spiritual concerns, feminism, and peace. Committee members educate themselves and make resolutions to translate ecological law into human activity.

One of the first steps in awakening people to Green awareness is introducing them to their bioregion's characteristic plants and animals and such efforts are under way in the US. OACC puts out a "bundle," containing materials representative of life in the Ozarks, including information on Ozark flora and fauna and their seasonal changes. Other groups working to focus attention on the nonhuman life in their area include Peter Berg's Planet Drum Foundation, which presents programs in the San Francisco area and generates a bioregional newspaper entitled *Raise the Stakes*. Nancy Morita's "Wild in the City" project, sponsored by Planet Drum, seeks to reintroduce and strengthen the populations of some of San Francisco's native wild species, such as Peregrine Falcons, Brown Pelicans, and California Sea Lions. To make San Franciscans aware of the wild creatures that once inhabited the area as well as of present indigenous species, her "Wild in the City" map compares the city of today with the native bioregion of 250 years ago, and she and others have painted "ghost" hoof and paw prints of the Tule Elk and Grizzly Bear on city sidewalks where these wild ones used to roam. All Species Day celebrations, initiated in 1978 in San Francisco, have been held in over a dozen cities; children are encouraged to choose a species they feel close to, learn its habits and needs and personify it through costume and theatre, coming away with a new understanding of the animals' lives and their own.

Over 200 participants gathered for the First North American Bioregional Congress in May of 1984, near Kansas City, Missouri; at that time a Green politics committee took shape to address the interest in formation of a Green political organization in the US. The following August, out of a meeting of 60 ecology, community, and peace activists, held near Minneapolis, emerged the Interregional Committee of Correspondence to facilitate the growth of the Green movement in America. Those who manifest a concern for nonhuman animals and who are interested in what the coming Green movement portends in their regard are urged to become involved at some level.

A Green National Conference is planned for July 2-7, 1987, in Amherst, Massachusetts. For details contact: David Haenke, Box 3, Brixey, MO 65618; or Howard Hawkins, POB 1342, White River Junction, VT 05001. For information on the Wild in the City Project, write: Nancy Morita, 6 Cypress, San Anselmo, CA 94960. For information on Planet Drum publications, write: Planet Drum Foundation, Box 31251, SF, CA 94131. If interested in sponsoring an All Species Day celebration, write: Chris Wells, 538 Aqua Fria, Santa Fe, NM 87501. To reach the Committees of Correspondence, write: POB 30208, KC, MO 64112.

Ronnie Hawkins is an Earth First! activist and a leader in the animal rights movement in Florida. She contributed a longer version of this article to the book, Advances in Animal Welfare Science *(ed. M.W. Fox and L.D. Mickley, 1985, The Humane Society of the US).*

MARK HATFIELD:
The Senator from Timber

by Jack Pine

The following is a look at one of the most powerful men in America. As ranking minority member and former chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Mark Hatfield regulates the flow of federal dollars to wilderness destruction — roads, timber sales, grazing subsidies, dams and all the rest. This article examines just one aspect of the senator's personality — that of his attitudes toward the environment. He has good points, but none have to do with the environment.

It was written by a person long involved in Oregon conservation politics. The alias is necessary because revealing the author would harm the cause of wilderness preservation. The author realizes that the undocumented style of the piece places its credibility in question, but feels that the story should be told anyway.

Except for time in the Navy, Senator Mark Hatfield has spent just one night outside a bed. He was Governor of Oregon then and was touring the Minam River drainage to see whether it should be included in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Yet for nearly 20 years, as the most popular Oregon politician ever, Hatfield has controlled the fate of Oregon's wildlands. He brags that he has "fathered" nearly 75% of Oregon's Wilderness. Therein lies the rub. Hatfield doesn't think it is wilderness until Congress says it is. His joking reply to the old line that "Only God and Congress can create Wilderness" is that "we don't let Him in on it until we're damn ready." Hatfield has engineered the destruction of several fold more wildlands during the same tenure than have been designated Wilderness.

In 1977, Representative Jim Weaver looked at the nearly 400,000 acres of wildlands in southwest Oregon known as the Kalmiopsis Country and saw that only 76,000 acres were protected in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. He proposed that protection be extended to include another 270,000 acres.

Hatfield freaked. As a believer in the creationists' view of wilderness, he had proposed more than doubling the "Wilderness" by designating another 134,000 acres. Weaver's plan to make over four and a half times as much Wilderness was too extreme. Weaver and Hatfield fought it out in 1978. Hatfield won as usual.

Hatfield has also used his immense power to quietly push "minor adjustment" bills through Congress which moved Wilderness boundaries and allowed roads. With the Kalmiopsis ("not one more acre," Hatfield has repeatedly vowed) he moved the northern boundary from the Illinois River Trail southward to the ridgeline. The effect was to allow the Bald Mountain Road. Fortunately, Earth First! protested and litigated the road to a halt (at least for now). He also moved the Hells Canyon Wilderness Boundary east to the canyon rim. The purpose was to allow the infamous "Rim Road" at the edge of the deepest gorge on Earth.

Every acre of Wilderness that has been protected by Hatfield has been due to political necessity. During his first re-election campaign in 1972, he expanded the Eagle Cap Wilderness to include the upper Minam River Country. He of course did not include the lower Minam, where the trees are — that was protected in a later election year. Six years later and up for re-election, he helped pass the Endangered American Wilderness Act. About a third of the acreage was in Oregon. Three years ago, in his third coronation, he blessed us with the Oregon Forest Wilderness Act of 1984, which "resolved" the infamous RARE II process for the state. (The rest of the Minam was saved then.)

What are Hatfield's personal feelings toward wilderness? If reporters were to ask him, they would hear about "balance," and the like. But his true feelings make the run-of-the-mill timber beast look moderate. He hates the very concept of wilderness. His loathing of wilderness is based on his evangelical Christian beliefs. Hatfield takes Genesis 1:26 ("Go forth and have dominion over earth . . .") literally. He believes that we have a mandate from God to develop the wilderness.

In 1983, Hatfield held what he hoped would be his last Oregon field hearing on the subject of wilderness. One of the 150 witnesses that day was Jane Newton of Oregon Women for Timber (known among Oregon conservationists as "Oregon Whores for Wood"). Her testimony was the most extreme diatribe of the day. She spoke of wilderness as a "pest sink," and noted that clearcuts "mimic nature, but are far less brutal to animals or fish, just as chemical technology is more benign than natural pestilence." She concluded with a plea to "keep all our roadless land open to the healing hands of timber management." Jane is married to Dr. Mike Newton of Oregon State University, who once put rags soaked with 2,4,5-T (a known carcinogen) on his leg to "prove" the popular forest herbicide wouldn't harm anything except those nasty deciduous trees that get in the way of Douglas-fir tree farms.

As rolling eyes revealed, even the timber industry attendees thought Mrs. Newton's extremism was not helping their cause. However, she was the only witness of that day who even came close to articulating Hatfield's views on wilderness.

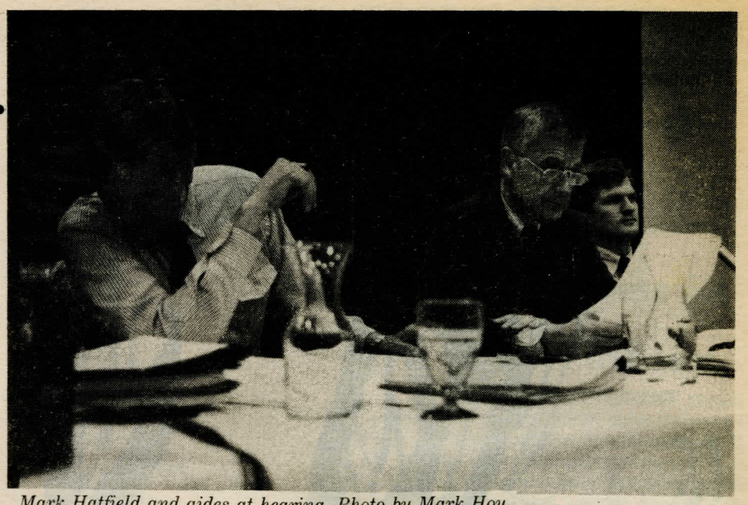
He has stated that leaving dead trees in the forest is akin to leaving dead people in the streets. When asked if he understood that all forms of life have a place on Earth, he responded, "What about malaria?"

Hatfield doesn't believe that wilderness is necessary for wildlife. For example, he has noted that there were plenty of cougars in Polk County when he was growing up, before there was any Wilderness. It's the creationist problem again. When he was growing up, Polk County was probably half wilderness (after God acted, but before Congress could). Now there is none. It's all farms (tree and other).

For his private acreage, he acquires exotic plants such as the dawn redwood (thought to have been extinct for 20 million years, but rediscovered in China in the 1940s). In addition to trafficking in exotic plants, Oregon's senior senator wants to dabble in wildlife. He asked a biologist if he could obtain a pair of spotted owls for his place and just stared blankly when told that a) he didn't have enough land, b) his trees were neither old enough nor of the right species, and c) he would need more than two birds if he wanted them for long. The man has no understanding of habitat.

Hatfield's obsession against wilderness also seems to stem in part from a reluctance to defecate outdoors. In 1968, the Forest Service recommended that Congress convert the Mt. Jefferson Primitive Area to formal wilderness. Conservationists were successful in convincing Hatfield to add the Marion Lakes area to the Wilderness, over the strenuous objections of the Forest Service. In its rage, the agency conducted a search and destroy mission of all signs of humans in the unwanted addition. Private boats moored on Marion Lake were towed to the middle of the lake, burned to the water line and sunk. Picnic tables, primitive shelters and other developments allowed under the Wilderness Act were removed. Most importantly, primitive latrines were removed.

It was this latter act that most offended Hatfield. He tried to get Marion Lake removed from the Wilderness. Conservationists were able to prevent this, but not without great cost. The Forest Service's practical application of their Wilderness purity doctrine, especially latrine removal, had great effect on Hatfield. This issue of human sanitation in heavily used de facto wildlands has repeatedly plagued conservationists' relationship with Hatfield. Hatfield opposed the restoration of French Pete Creek to the Three Sisters Wilderness (until his second re-election in 1978) ostensibly because it was so close to population areas that if it were designated Wilderness, it would be overrun with people with no place to defecate. He favored a less restrictive classification which allowed toilets. Fortunately, the new Carter Administration came down hard on the Forest Service abusive purity doctrine and decreed that toilets, if necessary, were o.k. in Wilderness. Hatfield withdrew his objections just in time for re-election.



Mark Hatfield and aides at hearing. Photo by Mark Hoy.

But the human feces issue wasn't over. The lack of sanitation options would cause Hatfield to periodically suggest an alternative to Wilderness designation, which would provide more recreation facilities (read 'outhouses') than could Wilderness. This alternative has troubled conservationists because it would also allow the Forest Service to salvage dead trees in the areas which Hatfield would legislate as "backcountry."

Indeed, the Oregon Forest Wilderness Act of 1984 designated the "Oregon Cascades Conservation Area," a pseudo-protective classification that wasn't wanted by conservationists, the timber industry, or the Forest Service. Only one person wanted it, but that was enough. The area has a nice name, but no real protection. Logging in the name of protecting the forest, or helping wildlife, water quality of quantity or recreation is allowed. The area is still open to mining claims. Livestock grazing will continue. Nothing has really changed — the Forest Service still has a blank check to destroy.

Another reason Hatfield despises wilderness is that it's a waste of good trees that could be used to house the world's poor. He believes every family in the world ought to have a split-level ranch house built with Doug-fir from Oregon.

Hatfield cultivates a hard-working image and is aloof from his constituents. Appearance is all important to him. (One warm noon as he was giving a speech in Lakeview, in Oregon's high desert country, his chief of staff and close friend Gerry Frank was seen buying individual beers at two separate stores so as not to look like he was buying a beer for his boss also.)

After passage of the 1984 Wilderness bill, Hatfield stated that roadless areas aren't roadless anymore. The bill not only released them, but also eliminated them — that damn Congressional creationism problem again.

Hatfield is now shoving riders through Congress to destroy roadless areas and eliminate any factor that might lower the outrageous logging levels on federal lands in Oregon. His propensity to use riders on appropriations bills to further his special legislative aims, without benefit of full Congressional review, is a major problem for conservationists. Hatfield used the technique to overturn a National Wildlife Federation lawsuit on the Mapleton District of the Siuslaw National Forest in Oregon. On the Medford District of the Bureau of Land Management, the mere possibility of litigation convinced Hatfield to circumvent the laws of the nation. Hatfield doesn't like "forestry in the courts," or in Congress. He'd rather have the Forest Service with full discretion, because they do what he wants — cut trees, build roads, etc.

SIDEBARB: A TALE OF TWO SENATORS

Mark Hatfield taught at Willamette University when Bob Packwood was a student there. Hatfield entered the Senate in 1967, Packwood in 1969. Both are Oregon Republicans and yet disagree on major issues. Packwood is pro-choice, a hawk, and supports Wilderness. Hatfield is opposite on each point.

In a public complaint about those who criticized him for nearly lone (but still effective) political support for the infamous Elk Creek Dam in the Rogue River basin (ten cents of benefits for every dollar of cost, 60-80% of salmon runs will be destroyed), Hatfield said that these people would have opposed the dams on the Columbia River a generation ago. Packwood noted at about the same time, that "maybe those dams on the Columbia weren't such a good idea after all."

Packwood has said, "if we saved all the wilderness that's left, in 20 years it won't be half enough." Packwood fought for French Pete and beat Hatfield. Packwood saved Hells Canyon from dams and recently worked for reform legislation to further protect the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. Packwood's efforts to date have been frustrated by Hatfield, who has said he'll pass a bill on Hells Canyon as soon as the conservationists, timber industry, and Wallowa County agree (i.e. when hell . . .). Hatfield knows that Boise-Cascade Corporation wants an all stump Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

The pro-Wilderness hawk and the anti-wilderness dove make an interesting contrast. It's fortunate for Oregon conservationists that the two will never run for the same office. We'd have to choose between a guy who wants us to survive in an unlivable world, and another who would have us enjoy the wilderness before we blow up.

Jack Pine has long battled Oregon's senior senator, and is able to continue buoyed by the expectation that he will outlive the bastard.

Reviews . . .

Continued from page 33

The military has controlled the testing program from the first. The World War II project to create a bomb was put into the hands of the US Army Corps of Engineers, which established the Manhattan Engineering District to do the work. Brigadier General Leslie R. Groves, "the construction engineer who had been responsible for the building of the Pentagon" (p.7) was put in charge of all army activities of the program; and by May of 1943 the army had "complete control" of the "Manhattan Project." After the war Groves remained at the head of the Project for a year and a half, as the Atomic Energy Act did not go into effect until 1947. During this period he was instrumental in setting up the two infamous atmospheric tests on Bikini.

The Atomic Energy Act stated that the "paramount objective" of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) would be "assuring the common defense and security" (p.27); and so structured the commission and its support committees that, although it was nominally a civilian body, the military had the upper hand. The revision of the Act in 1954, to open atomic energy to US utilities and to foreign countries, did not change this basic situation nor did the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 — which split the AEC into the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Energy Research and Development Administration, later to become the Depart of Energy (DOE).

Decisions on weapons are still in the hands of the military. Titus notes that

San Diego EF! Entertained in Wilson's Off ice

by Del Mar Man

On May 22, inhabitants of the California desert (Owl, Desert Tortoise, Bighorn Sheep, Banded Gecko, Cholla, Tarantula, Coyote and their San Diego Earth First! sympathizers) journeyed from their rapidly shrinking habitat to discuss with US Senator Pete Wilson (R-CA) why he hasn't supported Senator Cranston's (D-CA) California Desert Protection Act, Senate bill S7.

Cranston's bill, although considered radical by those with shallow environmental views, is really quite mild, as it has no road closures or restrictions on mining claims. Affecting only 10.5 million of the total 25 million acres of the California Desert Conservation Area, this compromise bill is far less comprehensive than the 17.5 million acre Earth First! California Desert Wilderness Proposal. (See desert article in this issue.)

We had written letters to Wilson asking his position on the bill, and had received form letters stating that he would not take a stand until the BLM finished its study of the area — in 1991! This tactic would allow four more years of rape and scrape, drill and spill in our habitat, thus decreasing the area eligible for Wilderness designation.

May 22: We meet at the Federal building at 2:30 only to find that Wilson has moved his office six blocks away. (Was this an evasive maneuver? That sneak!) As the reporter from the *San Diego Union* approaches, Todd whispers: "Oh shit! What are we going to do now?" Reporter arrives. "What are you guys planning to do?" EF!ers: "Umm, we're going to march from here to Wilson's office." Yeah, that's it, a march! So we did. Along the way we sang a variation of Bill Oliver's "Habitat":

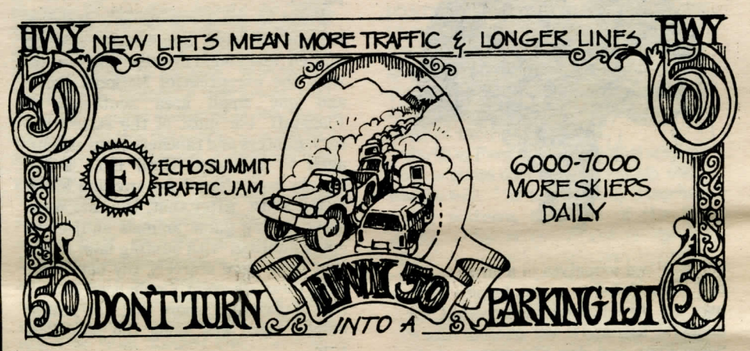
Habitat, habitat, have to have
a habitat...
The Desert is a habitat,
a very special habitat
It's where the Bighorn Sheep are at,
it's where the Rattlesnake gets fat

San Diego EF! and desert friends outside Sen. Pete Wilson's office. Photo by Del Mar Man.

If you don't give the desert back
We'll make your RV tires go flat
(Pssht!)
The Desert is a habitat
that we depend on!

We reached Pete Wilson's office only to find that he was not in town. His district director allowed the animals a "visit" in her office. Lone Wolf Circles, who had stayed in town for the action after inspiring us with the Deep Ecology Medicine Show, told her that Wilson was wimping out by not taking a stand. "Oh, please don't say that he's wimping out. . . . He wants to see further studies done by the professionals and then to make wise case-by-case decisions." The animals presented a written overview of the EF! Proposal.

Pete Wilson probably has offices in Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington, DC. Find out if there's an office near you where you can let him know how essential big desert wilderness is to the survival of its inhabitants. For information, contact the EF!ers at 619-481-6784, or Rod at 602-776-1335.



Sierra Ski Ranch

by Bromo Bison

A massive development is being planned for the top of California's Echo Summit, near South Lake Tahoe. The "Sierra Ski Ranch Expansion Project" is gaining momentum, and it is time for tree-huggers to write letters.

The proponents want 14 new ski lifts, a 300-room hotel, 180-room lodge, 20,000 square-foot day lodge, condos, gas stations, stores, roads, etc. In short, this would be another huge scar designed to attract Yuppies at the expense of sub-alpine wilderness.

The Echo Summit corridor (Highway 50) is overdeveloped now, and the highway is already congested during the skiing and gambling seasons. In addition to traffic problems, there will be impacts from sewage, smog, erosion, siltation, etc. The project will impact nearby Lake Tahoe, Desolation Wilderness, Pacific Crest Trail, sensitive plant and animal communities (including Spotted Owl), and fisheries. Such an expansion of facilities on Echo Summit could inhibit animal migration, causing isolation of populations and thereby a loss of genetic pooling between the east and west sides of the Sierra Nevada.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Write to Bruce Walters, El Dorado County, 360 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667. Tell him: 1) you oppose the entire Sierra Ski Ranch Expansion Project, 2) you want to be informed of all future public comment periods, and 3) to keep your letter on file for the formal record. And since they're so concerned about getting rich, clip the Hwy $50 bill below and send it with your letter.

Grizzlies Get Break From ORVs

by Mudslide Slim

Moments before a court hearing would determine if a temporary restraining order would be issued against the US Forest Service (FS), FS Chief Dale Robertson reinstated a closure to off-road-vehicles (ORVs) for a portion of the Swan Mountain Range in northwest Montana in order to prevent the case being heard in court. The chief's decision marks a victory for the Grizzly Bear and conservationists who have long fought for controls on ORVs in Grizzly habitat.

Swan View Coalition and the National Wildlife Federation filed suit in federal district court on April 28 to require the FS to reinstate an area closure to motorized vehicles authorized by the Flathead National Forest Supervisor to protect Grizzly Bear use of critical habitats in the Noisy Face area during the spring Grizzly use period of April 1 to July 1. The Montana Trail Bike Riders Association filed an appeal of the Supervisor's closure decision and requested it be stayed. The Regional Forester issued a stay on April 13, hence lifting the closure order and exposing the Grizzly to displacement by ORVs again.

Swan View Coalition and National Wildlife Federation promptly filed appeals of the Regional Forester's stay and demanded the FS reinstate the closure by April 27 to avoid legal action. The groups' appeals cited numerous studies of the Noisy Face which found major reductions in the ability of the Grizzly to use its spring habitats in the area due to ORV and road uses.

Forest Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) tours of the area in 1984 indicated that "motorcycle use . . . is undoubtedly precluding or greatly reducing grizzly bear use." These findings were confirmed following mapping of the area's road and ORV trail system by the Swan View Coalition and analyses by the FS which indicated road/trail densities of up to 6.6 miles per square mile in Grizzly Bear Management Situation 1 habitat where the Flathead Forest Plan allows a maximum of 1 mile per square mile. Yet the Forest Service has failed to issue a single restriction on ORV use in the area since it was first logged decades ago. Also, the FS has either allowed illegal motorcycle races or authorized races via special use permits which allowed new trails to be constructed.

Photo by Great Bear Foundation.

Following Swan View's administrative appeal of the last motorcycle race in the area in 1985, the FS launched a 30 member public "task force" to study the problems of recreation on the Noisy Face. Keith Hammer, chairman of Swan View Coalition, claims, "The Forest Service effectively abandoned biology and law for socio-political hype when it went into the task force without grizzly bear habitat component mapping, other essential wildlife habitat mapping and similar analysis tools.

Hammer feels that the FS never seriously intended to implement the Noisy Face ORV closure, which effects 3700 acres of spring "biker habitat." "By the time the motorcycle club appealed the closure order and the Regional Forester granted their stay, there was yet to be a single closure sign put up in the area. Nor did the Forest Supervisor attempt to justify his closure order to the Regional Forester in any meaningful way. It was readily apparent that the closure order was signed to get the local FS people off the hook and that the Regional Forester's reversal was to place environmentalists in the position of being the 'bad guys' by going to court to resecure the area."

The spring 1987 area closure is intended to be temporary, effective until the FS completes a final management plan this summer. The District Ranger has selected an alternative presented by the local motorcycle club as his "preferred alternative" even though the FWS finds fault with the alternative. The Forest Service will soon issue a biological evaluation for the "preferred alternative," which will go to the Fish and Wildlife Service. It appears the FS doesn't want to take the heat and is transferring it to the FWS.

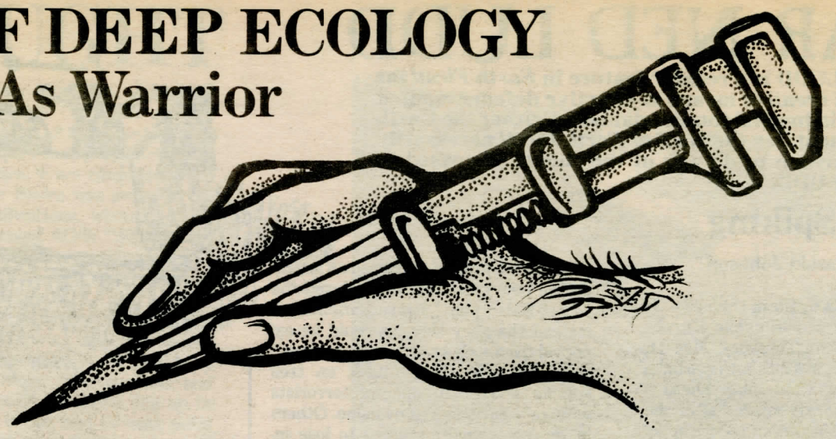
In their handling of the Noisy Face resource problems the FS has failed to assume the strong conservation posture mandated by the National Forest Management Act. As Hammer noted, "It was the Fish and Wildlife Service and the conservation movement which secured the northern Swan Range as Situation 1 grizzly bear habitat during the Forest Planning process and the FS has finally admitted to the repeated sightings and signs of the grizzlies which occupy this area . . . It's time they finally owed up to managing the area for what it is — some of the last and best occupied grizzly bear habitat in the lower 48 states."

While attorneys for Swan View and the Wildlife Federation met with the motorcyclists' and federal attorneys on April 30, a telex message to Swan View was wired from the Chief, reinstating the closure order. Environmentalists left the case pending in the event the Forest Service should attempt to reverse their decision again prior to July 1. Meanwhile, the closure signs are up and the Swan View Coalition is carefully monitoring Forest Service enforcement of the ORV restrictions.

The Swan View Coalition needs your financial support to cover expenses of this lawsuit. Please help them work to save the Grizzly by sending contributions to: POB 1901, Kalispell, MT 59901.

THE POETICS OF DEEP ECOLOGY
Woman As Warrior

by Lone Wolf Circles



The Poetics of Deep Ecology, Part V: Woman as Warrior

A GATHERING OF SPIRIT, the writing and art of North American Indian Women; edited by Beth Brant; $7.95 plus postage from: Sinister Wisdom Books, POB 1308, Montpelier, VT 05602.

My Viking ego has suffered no small amount from the times my art has been called "sexist," for portraying indigenous-looking women often wearing no more than the wildlife that seems to exude from their every pore. These are my humble visions, which clawed the insides of my skull until I released them. They are happy to represent the feminine yet strong, sensitive yet powerful, irrepressible Mother Earth. Not a Mother Earth bent over in weary defeat, a dried-up hull from which we can launch our Bucky Fuller spaceship dreams, but a wise old crone with secrets to tell. The medicinal touch of the Grandmother, yes! But also the fresh, naive young Earth ready to outgrow this minor, well-intentioned mistake. And the mature Earth, releasing the fertile aromas of her sexuality, endlessly recreating spirit in dancing forms, in fecundate splendor!

The Earth Mother as warrior, awakening to her instincts and an enlivened awareness. Hidden strengths. Not warrior in the sense of "war," the institutionalized violence of our technocratic greed, but in the sense of "spiritual warrior," willing to face seemingly insurmountable odds with courage, humor and love. Self-trained out of necessity to catch arrows in mid-flight, plant seeds under fire. It's too easy to compromise your power, to sit back in this "white man's world" hoping to influence the course of destruction. It is not enough to try to meditate the world into wellness. There is a new urgency in the air. It ruffles the eagle feathers when there is no wind. It is a vibration you can hear with your ear down to the ground, the sound of impending change. Time for the male spirits to find the sensitivity of the muse within them, to learn from the Grandmothers how to feel something *before* you touch it. Time for the female spirits to rediscover and release those strengths they have let mankind call their own. And it is a time for a *Gathering of Spirits* . . . .

Yes, Earth First! is a kick-ass, no compromise movement, but a movement that *moves*, embodying the feminine qualities of a river. Everchanging yet omnipresent, exhibiting a supple, responsive power. We seek council with the Mother Earth herself, with the feminine, and with the indigenous peoples whose values we share. All of us going beyond the role of "victim."

"We have a spirit of rage. We are angry women. Angry at white men and their perversions. Their excessive greed and abuse of the earth, sky, and water. Their techo-christian approach to anything that lives. . . *We are not victims*. We are organizers, we are freedom fighters, we are feminists, we are healers. For centuries it has been so. . . . We made the fires. We are the fire-tenders. We are the ones who do not allow anyone to speak for us *but* us," writes Beth Brant in the Forward to this amazing collection, cast up on a river-bank for us to scavenge. Picking its still-growing bones for the pain and ecstasy that magically combine into wisdom:

for downstream
a woman's body was found
delivered naked and nameless
into the river's lap.
my fingers claw wet clay
touch earth touch earth.
if you get lost
touch earth.
if the wind changes directions
or you are caught midstream
touch earth.
when violence hits you
touch deep
for that is where it strikes.
the place, the moment
when the killer and his instrument
become one.

(Charlotte DeClue)

When the machines and the weapons and their creators are one, we must learn to hear the Earth, to refuse to look away:

They say no one died.
Tiny desert flower, micro beetle bug,
are they not life?
Their bag of bones blown into the wind
captured in white dust storms
washed down polluted rivers
are they not dead?
They say no one died.
Nevada desert
1000 miles into her bowels
earth melted
radiation. radiation. radiation.
They say no one died.
As thousands of beetles
fell through the sky
and rabbit hair turned into
fur coats protecting atoms
as they floated into water.
They won't look
they will just say
no one died.

(Terri Meyette)

I read this the same day as the Soviets resume nuclear warhead testing in response to the continued US strategic testing in Nevada. New ears to hear with. New eyes with which to see. To see, and then to respond:

When an injustice is done . . .
The warriors gather.
The woman warrior is among them,
Proud and strong,
Because she is a fighter . . .
While the Lakota men make their stand,
Quiet defiance to the men who say,
"respect your brother's vision,"
She mutters, "respect your sister's vision too."

(Gayle Two Eagles)

Time to listen and prepare for the incredible challenge ahead:

Everything you told me needs understanding.
I remember what was told in jumbles,
like beads unstrung.
A bead to put down for Grandma
somewhere in there.
It's odd to smell Grandmother's beads
inside someone else,
My hands running over the patterns
again, asking questions . . .
Fighting the battle still waged against us.
In the siege, tightly I bead myself. The
light stretches down the hall,
moves in the night to make good feasts
once more.
Old people say, "This life can't last
forever. Money will run itself out."
The war is silent. In the quiet hours of
womanhood, I am taught to prepare."

(Elizabeth Woody)

Indeed, I love the Mother Earth in each woman, but in each man as well. She is our connection to the matrix of immortality, our free and determined spirit. A confident smile on her face, even tending our fire she sees all ways at once. A survivor with an erotic appeal, endlessly preparing. A resolve even the great floods can't drown:

I skim the bottom of the water now
another beach calling, another
earth in my blood. The songs are swallowed
as fast as I sing them, the muscles aching
with the cost of barley promises.
I am still convinced no matter what
that I am stronger than any storm.
Every song straining against the shackles
I creep the ocean floor and don't believe
anything about me can drown.

(Wendy Rose)

literature in the theatre lobby. It has remained there, highly visible, for two months. The only difficulty has been financing the large numbers of copies taken. If ever there were an occasion when people would be moved to act on behalf of these kindred ocean dwellers, it would be after seeing this film.

Reviewed by Holly Jensen.

THE BEACHES ARE MOVING: The Drowning of America's Shoreline; Wallace Kaufman & Orrin H. Pilkey, Jr.; Duke University Press; $7.95.

To comprehend the ongoing damage that man has done to America's seacoasts under the guise of "preserving" them, it is necessary to understand how beach systems work, how the complicated dynamics of coastal environments operate. The authors of *The Beaches Are Moving* succeed admirably in offering an easily understood explanation, one that illuminates the problems man creates when he seeks to control nature's cycles.

In the opening chapter, the authors point out the long-range value of shoreline studies. "Today we understand how hurricane seas surrounded and leveled the island city of Galveston and killed 6000 people in 1900. We know how a resort town disappeared on Oregon's Tillamook Spit. We understand the evolution of Cape May, New Jersey, from a broad sandy beach resort frequented by the country's Founding Fathers in the 18th century to a rubble-walled town pleading for economic assistance from Washington. We can prove that Miami's once broad white beaches were destroyed by the hotels facing them. We know how in an Alaskan bay giant waves sheared trees from hills a thousand feet above the water. We can even predict where future disasters will occur."

Through exhaustive research, the authors conclude that, "the public and the government that protected the public were laboring under a fundamental misunderstanding of the beach. To be healthy, beaches and sometimes whole islands have to move. Trying to 'stabilize' the beach was like trying to stabilize the ocean itself . . . Americans were responding by throwing more and more technology at the sea."

Kaufman and Pilkey argue that breakwaters, jetties, and other engineering projects along the coasts interfere with natural processes that work fine if left to their own dynamics. Beaches exist in what scientists call *dynamic equilibrium*. Conditions at any stretch of coastline involve an "unceasing trade-off of four factors: *Materials* (sand, silt, biological debris, flotsam), *Energy* (the forces of winds, waves, and tides), *Shape of the Beach* (steepness and width), and *Sea Level* (land rising or falling, seas gaining or losing water.)

Time after time, jetties and breakwaters have been constructed to prevent the normal flow of sand along a beach, the idea being to trap the sand in one area to halt erosion. By interrupting normal longshore currents, coastline adjacent to "protected" zones is deprived of the sand it normally would receive. There are vivid examples of this in every coastal state in the US.

The authors are opposed to the concept of sand replenishment, saying that as an environmental strategy "it is nothing more than cosmetics. The true beach is more than the bathing strand. It is a wedge of sediment three or four miles wide stretching underwater to depths of 30 or 40 feet. Replenishment drops sand only on the thin visible strip of upper beach. For obvious reasons, no one has yet suggested building up the entire shoreface down to 30 feet below the surface of the sea."

In their epilogue, which follows a comprehensive bibliography, Kaufman and Pilkey quote a document, signed by concerned coastal geologists in 1981, declaring that our beaches are *not* threatened by shoreline retreat but that engineered defenses "seriously degrade the environment and eventually help to destroy the areas they were designed to protect. . . . Finally we become locked into a dilemma of costly counterproductive measures wherein the more we do the worse the problem becomes."

The Beaches Are Moving is an excellent starting point for those wishing to learn how our coastlines have been systematically abused. One hopes that the book will reach a wide audience.

Reviewed by Allston James

BOMBS IN THE BACKYARD: Atomic Testing and American Politics; A. Costandina Titus; 1986; U of NV Press, Reno & Las Vegas.

In *Bombs in the Backyard*, A. Costandina Titus describes US nuclear testing in its political context. She ties together facts on the tests themselves and on related Congressional and legal actions, to make a readable book that explains why victims of radiation are not being compensated and why testing continues. Activists, she shows, are fighting an entrenched system, the characteristics of which were established when the first atomic bomb was created.

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DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in *Earth First!* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the staff of *Earth First!* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.

Tree Spiking

by Nagasaki Johnson

Tree spiking is again in the news. It started with an article in the *Eureka Times-Standard* on Thursday, May 14, about an accident in a mill in Cloverdale, Sonoma County, California, where a sawyer was seriously injured after the saw he was working hit an 11-inch spike and exploded in his face. Louisiana-Pacific, owner of the mill and the old growth redwoods being milled, was quick to point the finger at Earth First! and specifically mentioned *Ecodefense*. Ed Abbey's forward to that book was quoted freely.

A press conference was hastily arranged by the Sonoma sheriff's department the next day. Meanwhile, Earth First!ers were besieged with calls from the media from Washington state to Los Angeles. The media received our standard disclaimer and expressions of sympathy for the injured worker. The press was reminded again that we are not a membership organization, and that it was therefore impossible that one our "members" was involved.

On Friday morning, I picked up a *San Francisco Chronicle*, and there on the front page was the headline "TREE SPIKING CLAIMS FIRST BLOODY VICTIM." Back at home, my phone was ringing off the hook. I was on my way up to Garberville to meet with fellow EF!ers about the big action against Pacific Lumber planned for the 18th. When I walked into the office in Garberville, Darryl was fielding the many calls from the press and reminding them we had a demonstration planned for Fortuna on Monday, and that Cloverdale was 150 miles to the south.

The sheriff's press conference was packed, and spokesmen from the mill still insisted that radical groups "like Earth First!" who supported this type of terrorism were at fault. At that point the story took a turn toward the bizarre. L-P mentioned that they had also discovered decapitated animals placed at the logging site seemingly as some sort of a "hex." A member of the press asked if they had drawn any connection between the beheaded carcasses and the spikes. L-P declared that they had not, but after further questioning admitted that they had been screening the logs from Elk with metal detectors since the first animal parts were found, and then admitted that they screened *only* those logs from Elk. The logs from Elk were the only ones in which spikes were found. In other words, they *had* made the connection.

This came as a surprise to the county sheriffs, because L-P had not mentioned the connection between the mutilated animals and the spiking when they began their investigation. Indeed, such activity had been occurring at Elk for about a month, and this was the first the sheriffs had heard of it. Apparently, L-P had deliberately withheld information to give a stronger impression that EF! had been involved. While there are many who would believe we might have been involved in the spiking, few would believe we had adopted such bizarre rituals as the killing and mutilation of sheep and dogs. Nevertheless, this bad publicity cast a pall over our efforts to stop the plunder of California's old growth redwoods, and threatened to undermine the immense efforts EF! organizers had invested in this campaign.

Friday's *Chronicle* featured an article on the new twist, but downplayed the role of Earth First! and sensationalized instead the gory side, as could be expected from such a rag. Inside, however, they ran a scathing attack on tree spiking and environmental terrorists without mentioning us by name. Others in the news media seemed to lose interest in the story by late Friday, and we continued preparing for our actions on Monday.

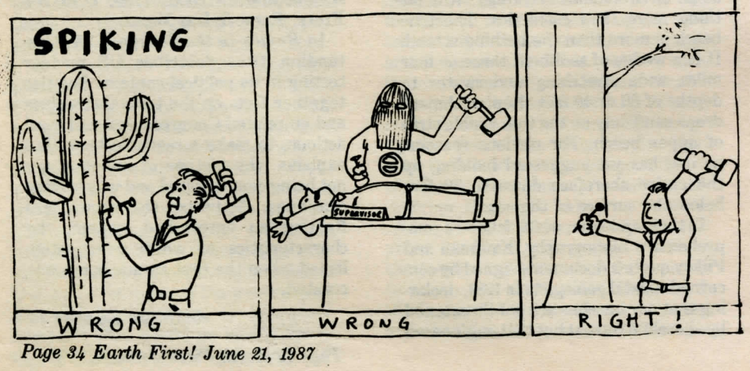
The National Day Of Action against MAXXAM was a big success. The *Chronicle* ran a good story. The *Santa Rosa Press Democrat* ran one of the finest news pieces on us I've seen in some time. The *Eureka Times-Standard* printed a front page retraction to their previous headline, which had read "EARTH FIRST! BLAMED FOR SPIKING," with a headline that stated "HEADLINE IN ERROR."

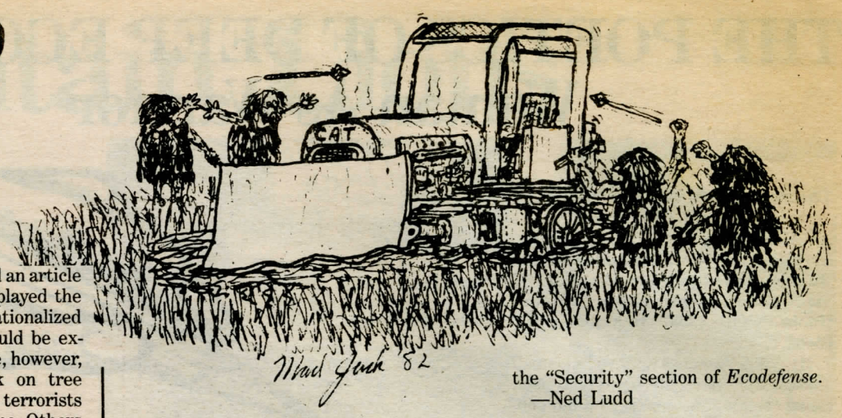
Mondays *Chron* also ran another poison-penned editorial by the infamous Abe Mellinkoff attacking radical environmentalists for both the spiking of trees and the pulling up of strawberry plants in Brentwood that were to be sprayed with the genetically engineered bacteria "Frost-Ban." Mellinkoff had written earlier that the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior by the French was justified, so to be attacked by him is a compliment.

So what is the lesson to be learned here? Well, I'm not exactly sure but I sure am proud of all the EF!ers who had to endure this. They defended themselves with honor and eloquence, and never retreated from their original positions. They focused on the issue, which in this case is old growth, and we are all better off for it. It also brought some chickens home to roost. Spiking is dangerous to fellow humans, and should never occur without warning! I think even the most misanthropic among us would agree with that. If it is indeed a defensive tactic, and not an offensive one, then we owe it to the unfortunate laborers who must slave away for corporate greedheads at a job that is already the most dangerous in this country.

Monkeywrenching is a controversial subject among EF!ers, and always will be. To expect it to be any less controversial among the media and the public would be foolish. But the bottom line here is that as a result of all this unfavorable coverage regarding spiking, people on the West Coast are acutely aware of the crisis that exists with our forests, and our role in trying to prevent it.

The accident tells us that lumber mills do not report spiking incidents as a matter of course, but only when they think they can score a propaganda victory over us. In this case, I think it backfired for two reasons. First, it demonstrated the lengths to which the timber beasts will go to discredit us, to the point of exploiting the injuries of one of their workers for their own political goals. In fact, it is likely that the accident was the result of L-P speeding up the *greenline* at the mill, in their zeal to maximize profits, by overworking millwrights and overcutting redwoods, a situation they have admitted themselves. Second, it demonstrated that spiking can be effective and is more widespread than previously thought. It is becoming obvious that the timber industry wishes to suppress this fact.





Dear Ned Ludd

Dear Ned,

Hunts for Grizzlies, Moose, Mountain Goats, and Bighorn Sheep in Montana have drawings. People wanting fewer such wildlife hunts should get information from the fish and wildlife department in their state [e.g. Arizona Department of Game and Fish; Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks]. Some drawings are open to out of state hunters. Apply for a license issued through a drawing. If you draw a hunt, buy the license, but don't do the hunt.

—Raffle Rouser

Dear Ned,

I noticed in a recent Jack Anderson column something that sounds like it has potential for monkeywrenchers. He was quoting from *OSS Weapons*, a classified manual published in 1944, during the Second World War. The item that caught my eye was something called the "Caccolube." It was designed to disable vehicles, and it consisted of a condom filled with abrasive powders and crushed walnuts. The device was dropped into an engine crankcase. "After the engine heats up," the OSS manual explained, "the hot oil will deteriorate the rubber sac and free the compound into the lubricating system. When circulated through the system, the compound fuses and welds the moving metal parts of the machinery. Slipped into a truck, the Caccolube takes effect after the truck has been driven from 30 to 50 miles. It reacts so thoroughly on pistons, cylinder walls and bearing journals that the vehicle is not only thrown out of service but the engine is destroyed beyond repair."

—Doc Whoopie

Dear Doc,

Does the Surgeon General know about this?

—Ned Ludd

Dear Ned,

Many people involved in the construction trades are familiar with pneumatic nailing devices. They utilize air pressure to drive nails at the touch of a trigger. They require a compressor which runs off an electrical source, as well as long lengths of air hose, making them impractical for wilderness use. Until now, the only alternative (besides the slower process of hand nailing) was powder-actuated tools, which are typically used to drive masonry nails into concrete. The main problem with these devices (for the monkeywrencher) is the loud report upon firing.

Recently a new product has become commercially available. It is similar to the pneumatic nailers, but requires no compressor or hoses. It runs off a propane fuel cell and a battery, and is designed around the principles of an internal combustion engine. The battery ignites a spark, causing a metered charge of propane to explode, driving a piston which in turn drives a nail. Manufactured by Paslode, the product is called the "Impulse 300." It is expensive (about $900) but with it, one can do the work of a small army. Also, they are much less noisy than powder-actuated tools. You can obtain the location of a distributor in your area by calling 1-800-323-1303.

—Carpenter turned ecoteur

Dear Carpenter,

Sounds wonderful, though it might take a Doc Sarvis to afford this beast. Seriously, before anyone rushes out and buys one of these, they ought to read the "Security" section of *Ecodefense*.

—Ned Ludd

Dear Ned,

Instead of worrying about hardwood shims for jamming locks, how about getting flat toothpicks? Use this process: stick one about halfway into a lock, break it off, and jam it in with a piece of wire or another toothpick. Repeat several times until you can't fit any more in. This is as effective as hardwood shims; since the typical person will not be able to remove the toothpicks, a locksmith or pair of boltcutters must be summoned.

Also, don't you hate all those small and mid-sized signs along rural roads announcing condominiums? Here's something to do about it from the comfort of your stinkmobile: Get several large rocks from a stream bed. Drive past the offending sign at night and have a buddy launch the rocks out the passenger window as you pass. Results will be best when the sign is close enough to the road to be easily hit, and the car speed is high. Sharp edges on the rock help penetrate metal signs. Remember the following factors: 1. A ten pound missile traveling 55 mph is dangerous. Make sure you are not endangering people, animals, or trees. Make sure that the rock will not ricochet off the sign back at your vehicle. 2. The impact of the missile will create a large noise. 3. Other security measures: leave no fingerprints on the rocks; don't leave suspicious rocks sitting in your car. Of course, there are other potential targets (machinery . . .) that might be close enough to the road to hit. For a quieter attack, use paint balloons on signs instead of rocks.

Have fun. Keep score as in bowling.

—the mad one

Ned's Public Service Announcements

The following are public service announcements, courtesy of Ned Ludd. Ned benevolently extracted them from newspaper advertisements. First, from Georgia-Pacific:

Read The Book, See The Movie, Call The Number: 1-800-334-4046. We're so excited about what we have to say in the 1986 Georgia-Pacific Annual Report that we think its deserves its own TV program. That's why we're offering a 20-minute video version of our annual report. It's a colorful way to digest a lot of hard facts (like our 58% increase in net income last year, for instance). Plus you can get all these facts in black and white in our printed version of the annual report. You'll discover a lot of evidence of our Financial Savvy in both. So order your free copy simply by calling the number above. Or write: Director of Financial Communications, Georgia Pacific Corporation, POB 105605, Atlanta, GA 30348-5605.

Second, from Weyerhaeuser:

If you think of Weyerhaeuser as a giant timber company, you're right. But that's only part of the picture. Today, we provide products and services in a wide range of related categories. For instance, we're now the largest supplier of private label disposable diapers in the US: diapers . . . made with Weyerhaeuser high-quality fluff pulp. . . . Last year, total sales for Weyerhaeuser Paper Company alone were more than $2.3 billion. But there's much more to Weyerhaeuser than pulp and paper. Weyerhaeuser is also one of the world's leading producers and marketers of lumber, and other building products. As well as a major force in real estate and financial services. . . . If you'd like to know more about Weyerhaeuser, give us a call toll-free at 1-800-445-7422, Ext. 33, in the continental US.

Strawberry...

Continued from page 1

heard of the test thought of it as "Progress." Having received approval from the EPA, the State Department of Food and Agriculture, and the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, AGS announced that the actual site was *either* Brentwood or a location near Hollister, in San Benito County, where approval had also been obtained.

This maneuver threw the opposition off track, but the informed radicals of the San Francisco Bay Area were not discouraged. Prior to the test, Earth First!ers and the Berkeley Greens, and others who had heard about the test at a speech by Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd, held a press conference in Brentwood and gathered signatures on petitions asking that the test be delayed until further experiments had been conducted to determine its effects on animals, the atmosphere, other crops, and people with impaired immune systems or cystic fibrosis.

The 1200 signatures on anti-AGS petitions, from a total population of 5600, cut no ice (plus or minus) with the county Supes. A last-minute injunction in a Sacramento court delayed the test one week, but an appeal to ban the release lost. Legal steps to stop the release were exhausted.

Many people, mostly those with vested interests, including San Francisco Mayor Diane Feinstein, envision the Greater Bay Area, and San Francisco in particular, as the cradle of a whole new industry (replacing Silicon Valley, which lost its industrial preeminence by letting the Japanese beat them at their own game) producing new life-forms. The whole idea of genetic engineering scares hell out of some of us. We don't trust Government, and we see Science running amok. The multinational corporation-controlled world of "Rollerball" lurks around the corner. We hope for Revolution, but are only able to fight an occasional skirmish. What can we do about ice-minus? One can only surmise.

So the rest of this story is fiction, although with a basis in truth. A few real people may be mentioned, such as members of the Brentwood Police Force. All others are products of the imagination, as is the writer.

Having waited, like good citizens, for the Law to save us from the Irresponsibles, and been kicked in the teeth, we know it's time for action. An emergency meeting is called. Two Earth First!ers are there. One is your (imaginary) correspondent. Little planning has been done before tonight, so various forms of violence are considered. This is a tough problem for many of us, because we don't believe in violence. We know that one obstacle will be a private guard — around the clock in three shifts. While immobilizing this "rent-a-cop" might be advantageous, no human confrontation will be permitted, if at all avoidable.

Among approaches considered is spraying the plants with something noxious, such as gasoline, acid, detergent, or paint. Environmental concerns rule this out. We agree that pulling them up is the only ecologically sound procedure. (Hindsight stamps this as a major error, due to failure to bring garbage bags so as to remove the plants from the premises.) Of course, this is only to be suggested to our Brentwood contacts. We will only be there for moral support.

We plan to do a candlelight vigil at the gate to the field. Anything we are to accomplish must be done before daylight, for AGS has scheduled their abomination for 5 AM.

We reach an agreed-upon rendezvous site only to find it empty of accomplices. However, there do seem to be a lot of police cars nearby on the highway, and in the parking lot where we are. We wait. When no one shows, we leave for the target. Within a mile, we see one of our compatriots, pulled over by a patrol car. Freaked, we drive by, trying to look nonchalant. To ascertain if our friends were actually being busted, we go back; they're still in the same unfortunate position. We go back to the original rendezvous point. Suddenly, two police cars arrive and pin us in. The "bad" cop asks our driver to step out and produce ID. The "good" cop does the same to the other car. Soon we're all out and mostly checked. I have my driver's license, but I'm not asked for it. At least two people give phony names. The "good" cop explains that they'd been warned to expect troublemakers (which *we* should have anticipated) and that we fit the description (seedy-looking? wild-eyed?). He also explains about our friends whom we saw pulled over. They made an illegal left turn, but were let go before the cops received information that the driver's license was suspended.

A person in the car beside us has a warrant out against him. Someone questions their authority to hassle us this way, quoting State Penal Code sections. "Bad" cop says, "So what? Don't mean shit around here. WELCOME TO SMALL-TOWN POLITICS." Quote, unquote! "You've got exactly three minutes to get out of town. Or we'll arrest the warrant guy and the suspended-license driver."

So we leave the parking lot and, amazingly, head toward the site — the other car, then us, then one cop. In the center of town, first car turns, and we turn the opposite way. Cop can't follow both, so he follows the other car which is headed toward the site. He follows them for an hour, then gives up.

Meanwhile we return to Berkeley, where two people are staying by the phone to relay messages. A call comes from the driver with the suspended license. He's in a small town near Brentwood, lying low. Because this phone is reputed to be bugged he doesn't say much, but it sounds like the whole deal is a fiasco. It's 3 AM and we split for our homes. At 7:30 my phone rings and a voice I recognize says "our friends accomplished what they set out to do." Inadvertently we had done our job — distracted half the cops!

This news is so exhilarating I can't go back to sleep. So I attend a protest against lab animal vivisection. The whole world looks beautiful!

Later we fill in some of the gaps. When those in the first car were sure they weren't being followed, they went to the site. At this point, fact and fiction become inscrutably intertwined. Did the people in this car become confused and enter the site from the back of the property, or did they meet our local friends who then went there on their own? Maybe we'll never know. But things *could* have gone like this: When they reach the site the driver agrees to swing back every 20 minutes; the passengers jump out and enter an orchard for cover. They still don't know where they are, but searchlights, kindly provided by the enemy, pin-point the destination.

Our heroes and heroines crawl through a cornfield up to the chain-link fence surrounding the 90 square foot test plot. Zip, zip with the bolt-cutters. Crawl down the rows, ripping up strawberry plants, 2000 of them. Goal essentially accomplished, they quickly retreat to the orchard, and wait. Cold and nervous, they see dawn approaching and mad scientists and a horde of press beginning to arrive — *Time* magazine, Japanese TV, *US News & World Report*. At the back door, so to speak, a car appears and 10 people, half of whom had arrived after the act of "vandalism," pile in hastily. They drive back-roads to Concord.

So let's return to the truth: As dawn breaks, Andy Caffrey, of the Berkeley Greens and Earth First! and a leader in the battle to stop the spraying, arrives for the media event, and is ushered off the property by the incensed owner, backed up by the Law. The plants are stuck back in the ground, and sprayed on schedule. (One protester says they would have sprayed with *no* plants. Frost is not an issue this late in the year. The real issue is whether their artificial microbe will replace the natural one and what, if any, unanticipated damage will occur to the environment.)

The moral of this (fictional) story is that this failed attempt to stop the reckless forward march of dangerous science could have been a real success with a little additional forethought.

A few days later, in Tule Lake, almost the same experiment took place, involving potatoes rather than strawberries. Having fought against this nightmare once before, the inhabitants felt apathetic and did nothing.

AGS will put out press releases saying what a great success their experiment has been, even if it hasn't. The stage will be set for even more exotic examples of genetic engineering.

ice-minus is one tiny piece in a huge puzzle beginning to take shape. It may take a long time to fit in all the pieces, but some of them will knock your sox off. Eventually, it will include altered humans, if that will still be the right word for them.

The honest, non-fictional thrust of this story is that ordinary people can, by anticipating the opposition's moves and by carefully considering consequences, stop even the most wayward "Progress" dead in its tracks. No compromise!

Or write us at Box 111852, Dept. 33, Tacoma, WA 98411. . . .

And third, from the Ada County, Idaho, Sheriff's Department:

REWARD $10,000 For information leading to the arrest and conviction of person or persons who are vandalizing the Pacific Power 500 KV Transmission Line South of Boise. If you have information about this incident, contact Lt. Bowers at the Ada County Sheriff's Dept., 377-6500.

The Potato Liberation Front

by Spud Buster

We proudly claim responsibility for the sabotage in May of the Tulelake ice-minus experiment. Having exhausted all legal means to stop the test, we were left no choice but to take direct action in defense of ourselves and Mother Earth.

By laboriously uprooting several thousand potato plants at night, most of which were targeted for open-air spraying with the genetically altered bacteria, we have halted (for this year, at least) the plans of the biotechnology industry to rush their little-understood product onto the market.

The determination of UC scientists in Tulelake (like their AGS brethren in Brentwood before them) to proceed with the spraying despite the sabotage clearly illustrates that they are more interested in setting a precedent for open-air releases than they are in achieving valid scientific results. One cannot "patch together" the scientific method, and any test results at this point will be meaningless, despite scientists' assertions to the contrary.

Almost nothing is known about the effects of ice-minus bacteria on humans or the environment. Closely related strains are known to cause disease in a variety of plants, and reputedly affect the human immune system, though no studies have been done to confirm this. One female lab technician who worked with ice-minus in Oakland has been repeatedly hospitalized with serious sinus problems. Farm workers will become human guinea pigs if "Frostban" products are ever used commercially.

Plant pathogens like ice-minus can travel hundreds of miles by wind, and can reproduce normally like any other bacteria. We know nothing about the effect of ice-minus on cloud formation, the wintering cycles of plants, or the hydrosphere. Ice-minus is disturbingly similar to the ice-nine of Kurt Vonnegut's novel *Cat's Cradle*, and we have no way of knowing that fact won't follow fiction.

Like nuclear power in the 1950s, genetic engineering is being touted as a cure-all for a variety of society's problems. Yet like other high-tech "solutions" in agriculture, ice-minus and related products will benefit only the largest agribusiness concerns, and do nothing to help small farmers, much less feed people. A revolutionary change in our social and economic priorities must precede any successful efforts to feed the hungry on this planet.

Ice-minus is just the tip of the biogenetic iceberg. Scientists are also tinkering with human DNA molecules and human reproduction. Using live tissue cultures and women's bodies as their testing ground, these mad scientists refuse to look at the practical and ethical questions raised by their research. Unless people make a stand now against this foolhardy industry, a Pandora's box of genetically altered substances will soon be loosed upon the world, with potentially cataclysmic results.

If ice-minus is such a threat to humans and the environment, then how, you may wonder, did we justify exposing ourselves to the bacteria by tearing the stems from the spuds? Rest assured that we took tremendous precautions to limit our exposure to the bacteria, and to prevent its removal from the test site.

We hope that our actions will inspire others who share our concern for Earth and our frustration with the legal system, just as we were inspired by the actions of the Brentwood ecoteurs. No compromise in defense of Mother Earth!

(Editor's note: We received the above communique anonymously.)

"Frostban" test spraying 4/27/87, Brentwood, Contra Costa County, California. First release of genetically engineered organisms into environment.
Photo by David Cross.

SLASH ART

by David Helm

On a rainy morning in March, five environmental activists set out for a large clearcut on steep terrain just off Interstate 5 south of Bellingham, Washington. They intended to rearrange the debris left by the loggers (the birth of "slash art").

For years, clearcut logging has been hidden behind cosmetic "green strips." Drivers pass blithely by, thinking they are in deep forest. However, in recent times, the major deforestation agents have become so arrogant they no longer hide their destruction.

The intrepid five saw an opportunity to help educate the public. Using primitive tools (arms, legs), they moved downed trees into a pattern within four hours. All southbound vehicles (the road to Seattle) upon rounding a bend came face to face with a large area of destruction with the word "RAPE" clearly spelled in 30-foot letters. The effort made the local newspaper.

Slash art is an inexpensive way to graphically convey a message. I would not be surprised if similar messages appeared all over this part of the state.

David Helm is an activist with Shuksan Earth First! (POB 1731, Ferndale, WA 98248).

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ACID RAIN

Acid rain,
heavenly seine
of high lakes
fishes
with drops and flakes
as old as ever;
but never before
like this.

I am ordering
T-shirts for shrouds.
Belly up they read:
GIMMEE AN ALKA-SELTZER!;
as this sad procession
of limp fish funerals
find each

their eddy
to sink in.

Doc Dachtler
Hills Flat

100 acres magic emerald forest gone this minute
cow pasture patties
ranchers on welfare

STOCK

LIQUIDATION

Manley Foote-Weiré & Eric Holle

Frog Songs

They call to me this sultry night
guttural sounds blasting
through the sleep
I cannot
meet:

A chorus of longing
A statement of Being
A time of sharing.

My heart calls to you
through the wetness
across the storms
to where you, too,
must lie
listening.

Remember the cricket cries of July
when we lay
with the sheet off
letting the lusty warmth
crawl over our sweat
until we
sighed.

Let us mingle in the reptilian night
our rubber toes clinging.
Let us bellow in throaty ecstasy
our rhythmic pulsations echoing
in higher intensity
until silence
holds us
still.

Judy Conner
Trinidad

SKIRTS

Femininity is
Splitting 50 lb. oak rounds
Wearing a full skirt
Over baggy pants

Swinging the maul
As breath turns to vapor
Drifts away into
Winter woods

Crack of oak
Exposes pungent grain
Not force
But true aim
Encourages cracks
Straight back to the source

What was once too large to lift
Soon is gathered into arms
Some work finds form
In gentle hands

Lauren Davis
San Juan Ridge

NEVER BEFORE

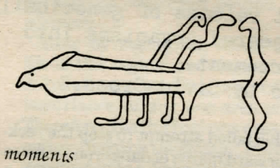
HAS SO MUCH BEEN CONTROLLED BY SO LITTLE.

THE ORIOLE

You were almost overlooked
orange and black and white
stuck fluttering near the centerline.
We stopped and backed up to see you closely.
Your body so fragile, still whole,
feathers bent and brilliant
your chest mangled
your beak sharp and black
speaking to me
through my hands which cradled you
through my eyes which had only a few moments
to take in your broken beauty.
You were someone I didn't know but knew about
your death a shock
reminding me point blank
of a wild intimacy I struggle to claim for myself
beyond the edge of this
ignorant
murderous blade
that slices through hills and forests
sacrificing a thousand times daily
the winged, four-footed, feathered, toothy, scaled, bright-eyed
aspects of ourselves
so that we may have our quick and easy
way in the world.

I set your limp body gently in the tangled grasses
and as we drive away,
through the rageless roar of the truck
slipping innocently into gear,
I hear
birds singing in the fields
and I see you
ablaze.

Marcy Marchello
Ann Arbor



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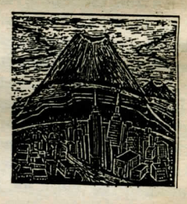

How do you
Kill a condo
Don't water it

Rick McMonagle
El Cerrito

CHINOSERIE

-from A Few for Lew

Reading the Chinese poets,
proverbial petals quilt the steps.

Madame drags a weary hand
along the banister.

The moon for sure hangs somewhere.

Bill Deemer
Junction City

CHURCH AND STATE

I am God
I am the Universe
It is taboo for me to say
this
because so are You

Paul Richards

Boulder, Montana

POEMS

to be good must be
clear as cut glass

& just as dangerous

Art Goodtimes
Cloud Acre

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Music ♫♪♫

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Walkin' Jim Stoltz has walked 15,000 miles across the wilds of the West. These songs were written in the wilderness and are sung with his incredibly deep and resonate voice. Jim's just released second album includes: The Brand New Grand Canyon Suite, The River Song, Just A Part of the Sky, Let Me Listen To The Wind, Wolf Song, Old Cisco, Follow Your Heart, I Walk With The Old Ones, Green and Growing, Forever Wild. Includes liner notes. $10 postpaid.

Jon Sirkis "A Few Less Colors"

Lone Wolf Circles reviewed Jon Sirkis' debut album in *EF!*, writing, "It is popular for its funny political ramblings, tunes that seem to have hitchhiked here from the sixties, the soles of their feet black from walking city sidewalks and kicking idealistic coals back into the philosophical fire. The finest cut remains the title song, in which the special place to which we each retreat is covered with tract homes and shopping malls. *The Tucson Weekly* called it "one of the finest independently produced US albums made in 1985." Jon is an active EF!er as well, based in Boulder and Tucson. $9 postpaid.

Note: Greg Keeler's two cassettes are sold out. Instead of reproducing more of them as they now are, we are going to do a professional engineering production of both of them. Watch this section for their release later this summer. Also upcoming is the long-long-long-awaited "Greatest Hits of Johnny Sagebrush."

Bill Oliver "Texas Oasis"

Bill Oliver's first inspiring, witty and rollicking album. Includes: Texas Oasis; Pretty Paper, Pretty Trees; If Cans Were Nickels; Shopping Maul; Village Creek; Holes; Snail Darter March; River Libber; Have to Have a Habitat; and lots more! $9 postpaid.

Bill Oliver & Friends "Better Things To Do"

Bill Oliver has re-arranged his fine "Better Things To Do" cassette with the addition of several new songs including Turtle Island; Champ! (with the Austin Lounge Lizards); and Rio Grande Valley. Also includes Muir Power To You; Better Things To Do; Get Along Litter Dogies (with Jerry Jeff Walker); Pine Away Pine Bark Beetle; Grand Canyon Rendezvous (by Glen Waldeck); When I Look Into The Sky; and more. $9 postpaid.

Cecelia Ostrow "All Life Is Equal"

Cecelia has one of the most beautiful voices in music today. The lyrics and music to her songs are haunting and profound. Includes: Sweet Oregon Home; Water; Wild Things; Forest Song; I Feel the Forest; Time in the Forest; and more. $6.50 postpaid.

Walkin' Jim Stoltz "Spirit Is Still On The Run"

Walkin' Jim's deep voice and wilderness-inspired lyrics will send shivers up your spine and launch a howl in your heart. Includes: All Along the Great Divide; Lone Lion Runs; Followin' the Rainbow Trail; Yellowstone Tales; Sweetwater; and more. $9 postpaid.

Rainforest Information Centre "Nightcap"

An outstanding one hour long documentary of the successful defense of the Nightcap Rainforest in Australia in 1979. One half music including "Take Your Bulldozers Away," "Tonka Toys," and other great Australian environmental songs. The rest of the tape is live action recording from the blockade. $10 postpaid.

Austin Lounge Lizards "Creatures From the Black Saloon"

Marvelous country comedy and satire humor, superbly produced. Includes smash songs such as: Saguaro; Pflugerville; Anahuac (with Jerry Jeff Walker); Kool-Whip; Chester Woolah; Hot Tubs of Tears; Old & Fat & Drunk; The Car Hank Died In; and much more. $9 postpaid.

Lone Wolf Circles "Full Circle"

A poetic journey into the Artist's magical world-view, set to the music of man and the music of nature. A return to awareness and sensitivity, to our wild and true selves, alive and free. Gary Snyder says "*Full Circle* is a surprising experience; archaic, fresh, future; wild, refined, all at once. Which should be no surprise — that's how the real world is — my respects to Lone Wolf Circles." 27 poems. $10 postpaid.

Dana Lyons "Our State is a Dumpsite"

A short but powerful cassette by Washington State environmental singer/songwriter Dana Lyons. Includes title song, The Company's Been Good to Me, The Stars Will Always Move, and Drying Tears. $6 postpaid.

Dakota Sid ". . . For The Birds"

You've enjoyed the heart-stirring songs of Dakota Sid at the Round River Rendezvous in Idaho and at the California Rendezvous. Now you can purchase his cassette featuring For the Birds, Eagle Song, High Flyin' Tune, Endangered Stranger, The Condor at the Western Gate, Runnin' with the Moon (Owl Song), and Hawks & Eagles. This one's for the birds — and all you bird lovers, too. $9 postpaid.

Famed folksinger Burl Ives has said, "The best cowboy singer I know is a girl, Katie Lee." Katie Lee is a superb folk song historian and interpreter, a fine musician, a former actress, a pioneer river runner (the 3rd woman to run all of Grand Canyon), a fighting conservationist (she was one of the few fighting the construction of Glen Canyon Damn), and one of the few of whom it can be honestly said — a legend in her own time. We're proud to offer three of Katie's fine folk cassettes.

Katie Lee "Fenced!"

Twelve new songs about the old West, written in the folk tradition. These songs remind us of some of the things we should try to keep from slipping away. Includes: Wreck-The-Nation Bureau Song; Bert Loper; Ridin' Down The Canyon; Fenced; and others. 60 minute cassette. $12 postpaid.

Katie Lee "Ten Thousand Goddam Cattle"

28 spirited songs about an older and disappearing West. Includes: A Cowboy's Prayer; Old Dolores; The Last Wagon; Dobe Bill; Jose Cuervo; Empty Cot in the Bunkhouse; The Ballad of Alferd Packer; and more. 90 minute cassette. $14 postpaid.

Katie Lee "Love's Little Sisters"

17 heart-tugging, poignant, yet tasteful ballads about the souls, lives and loves of women who made The West and its men! Includes: House of the Rising Sun; The Sisters of the Cross of Shame; The Hooker (written by Tom Paxton); Casey's Last Ride (written by Kris Kristofferson); The Flower of Virginia City Fire Company; and more. $12 postpaid.

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"The Making of an Endangered Species" David E. Brown, editor. Defenders of Wildlife says, "This well-researched and readable book tells the story of the building of a federal bureaucracy devoted to the killing not only of wolves but also of mountain lions, bears and other predators . . . . also valuable for its information on the life history of the wolf and for the colorful accounts of several famous wolves that long evaded traps and poisons." Crucial reading for those interested in returning the wolf to the Southwest. 195 pages with a bibliography and index, photos, maps, charts. University of Arizona Press. Paperback. $11 postpaid.

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(Published by Ned Ludd Books and available from Earth First! at a 40% discount plus shipping for wholesale orders of 5 or more.)

THE EARTH FIRST! LI'L GREEN SONGBOOK

78 terrific Earth First! songs by Johnny Sagebrush, Cecelia Ostrow, Bill Oliver, Greg Keeler, Walkin' Jim Stoltz and others from Australia and America. Guitar chords are included with most songs. An absolute must for every true-green EF!er to sing along with our minstrels or to play them yourself. Dealer inquiries welcome. $6 postpaid ($3 plus shipping for wholesale orders of 5 or more).

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DEEP ECOLOGY "Living As If Nature Mattered" by Bill Devall and George Sessions. This groundbreaking book presents the philosophical fundamentals for the defense of Earth, discussing biocentrism, intrinsic value, and ecological resisting. Appendices by Dolores LaChapelle, Gary Snyder, John Seed, Carolyn Merchant, Robert Aitken, and Arne Naess. 263 pages, now in paperback. $11 postpaid.

THE MONKEY WRENCH GANG By Edward Abbey with illustrations by R. Crumb. Signed by the author for Earth First!. This 10th Anniversary edition by Dream Garden Press is a true collector's item. Hardcover, $25 postpaid.

SLUMGULLION STEW By Edward Abbey, illustrated by the author, and signed for Earth First!. "An Edward Abbey Reader" with selections from all of Abbey's books including *Jonathan Troy* (written in 1954) to "The Fat Masterpiece" (Abbey's novel in progress which will be published in a year or so). An outstanding selection of the best of Cactus Ed. Abbey has donated these books to us as a fundraiser — all proceeds go to EF!. This book is now out of print — we have the last copies. 383 pages, hardcover. $20 postpaid.

BEYOND THE WALL "Essays From The Outside" by Edward Abbey. Vintage Abbey recounting trips into the wilderness of Arizona, Sonora, Utah, Texas, and Alaska. Paperback, 203 pages. $9 postpaid.

DESERT SOLITAIRE By Edward Abbey. Abbey's fine collection of explorations in the Southwest. One of the great works of American nature writing. Paperback, $4.50 postpaid.

THE JOURNEY HOME "Some Words in Defense of the American West" by Edward Abbey. Illustrated by Jim Stiles. An anthology of Abbey's best essays in defense of wildness. Includes the classic "Freedom and Wilderness, Wilderness and Freedom." 242 pages, paperback. $9 postpaid.

RESIST MUCH, OBEY LITTLE "Some Notes on Edward Abbey" edited by James Hepworth and Gregory McNamee. Fifteen distinguished writers comment on Edward Abbey as a major American author. Contributors include Wendell Berry, Gary Snyder, William Eastlake, and Barry Lopez. Also includes four interviews with Abbey. 127 pages, paperback. $9 postpaid.

GATHERING THE DESERT By Gary Paul Nabhan with illustrations by Paul Mirocha. If you love the Sonoran desert, you have to have this superbly written and illustrated book describing the natural history and human uses of the key plants of the Sonoran Desert. Destined to be an American nature classic. Nabhan is a careful observer of the desert, an exquisite writer with a fine sense of humor and place, a dedicated conservationist, and one of the world's leading ethnobotanists. Reviewed in May 1986 *Earth First!* 209 pages. Now in paperback. $16.50 postpaid.

FULL CIRCLE "The Poetry and Vision of Lone Wolf Circles." Early poetry and prose from Earth First!'s Lone Wolf Circles. Includes 10 full page prints of shamanistic wilderness art by Wolf. Almost out of print. 58 pages, paperback. $5 postpaid.

BEAR MAGIC A chapbook by the National Grizzly Growers featuring poems by Gary Lawless, Leslie Marmon Silko, James Koller, and Kate Barnes; art by Stephen Petroff; and interviews with Doug Peacock, Dave Foreman, and Lance Olsen. All proceeds to the Bear. $3.50 postpaid.

A SAND COUNTY ALMANAC By Aldo Leopold. This environmental classic was selected by more reviewers in *Sierra* magazine's recent overview of significant environmental books than any other. Dave Foreman, in that article, called it not only the most important conservation book ever written, but the most important book ever written. Paperback, $9.50 postpaid.

THE GIFTING BIRDS "Toward An Art Of Having Place And Being Animal" by Charles Jones. This excellent volume of essays from Dream Garden Press deals with that most important need of our modern world — a sense of place. Reviewed in March 1986 *Earth First!*. Hardcover, 158 pages, $16 postpaid.

KILLING THE HIDDEN WATERS "The Slow Destruction Of Water Resources In The American Southwest" by Charles Bowden. Ed Abbey calls Bowden the "best social critic and environmental journalist now working in the American southwest." This important study examines groundwater depletion in southern Arizona and the Oglalla aquifer by European cultures and the earlier efforts by the Pima/Papago and Comanche to live in harmony with their dry lands. Reviewed in Samhain 86 *EF!*. Paperback, 206 pages, 36 photos, 6 maps, $9 postpaid.

BLUE DESERT By Charles Bowden. Published by the University of Arizona Press in 1986, this is an eloquent and penetrating study of the darker side of the Sunbelt. One chapter, entitled "Foreman," is about — guess who? Belongs on the shelf next to Abbey's "Desert Solitaire." Hardcover, 178 pages, $18.50 postpaid.

WALDEN By Henry David Thoreau with a major introductory essay by Edward Abbey — "Down The River With Henry Thoreau." Paperback, 303 pages, $6.50 postpaid.

THE AMERICAN CONSERVATION MOVEMENT "John Muir and His Legacy" by Stephen Fox. Both a history of the conservation movement and an important new biography of John Muir, this book is recommended as absolutely crucial to understanding the environmental movement. Well-written, heavily footnoted, with photographs, now in paperback, 436 pages, $16.50 postpaid.

OF WOLVES AND MEN By Barry Holstun Lopez. An unprecedented blending of natural and social history, Lopez explores the world of the wolf and where it touches the world of man, with a poet's eloquence and understanding. One of the finest natural history books ever written. Illustrated, 309 pages, paperback, $16.50 postpaid.

THE SNOW LEOPARD Peter Matthiessen's extraordinary journal of his fall journey in the Himalayas with zoologist George Schaller in search of the elusive and endangered Snow Leopard, and in search of himself after the death of his wife from cancer. Paperback, $5 postpaid.

QUATERNARY EXTINCTIONS "A Prehistoric Revolution" edited by Paul S. Martin and Richard G. Klein. Whodunit? 12,000 to 10,000 years ago, dozens of genera of large mammals and birds became extinct. In this impressive book, 38 scientific papers discuss and analyze whether climatic change or overhunting by humans caused the demise of mammoth, mastodon, smilodon, cave bear, cave lion, giant beaver, and others in North & South America, Australia, Oceania, Eurasia, and Africa. A book of crucial importance in understanding the impact of our species on the rest of nature. Hardcover, University of Arizona Press, 892 pages, $67 postpaid.

JAGUAR "One Man's Struggle to Establish the World's First Jaguar Preserve" by Alan Rabinowitz. An outstanding book of conservation and adventure about the author's attempts to save the Jaguars of Belize in Central America. Soon to be reviewed in these pages. 32 pages of color and b&w photographs. Hardcover, $21.50 postpaid.

PARABLE OF THE TRIBES By Andrew Bard Schmookler. A provocative and original thesis on the origin of war and aggression in human society, with special application to environmental problems. Reviewed in Mabon '85 and followed with replies from Schmookler and various replies to Schmookler on the question of anarchy. The debate still continues in these pages. Read the book that started it. Paperback, $11 postpaid.

THE BHOPAL TRAGEDY — ONE YEAR LATER A 235 page detailed report on the Bhopal disaster which killed more than 2,000 people was published by Sahabat Alam Malaysia (Friends of the Earth Malaysia) because the disaster "has not called forth the angry, militant response it should have" and "to call for an international condemnation of transnational corporations who put profit before human lives." $10 postpaid.

CRY WOLF! By Robert Hunter and Paul Watson. A stirring report from two of the founders of the original Greenpeace about the courageous efforts of Project Wolf in British Columbia to stop the demented wolf extermination campaign of the BC government. Reviewed in Nov. '85 *Earth First!*. 130 pages, paperback. $9 postpaid.

SEA OF SLAUGHTER

By Farley Mowat. A landmark study of the historic and on-going destruction of wildlife (seabirds, other birds, bears, wolves, fish, whales, seals) along the northern Atlantic seaboard of North America. *USA Today* says that "*Sea of Slaughter* deserves to stand with Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* as an outstanding indictment of man's stupidity in alienating himself from nature." Paperback, 437 pages, $11.50 postpaid.

NEVER CRY WOLF

By Farley Mowat. One of the all-time nature and conservation classics. The adventures of a young Canadian biologist investigating wolves and caribou in the Arctic. Adapted for the Disney movie a couple of years ago. Paperback, $4 postpaid.

A WHALE FOR THE KILLING

By Farley Mowat. A real-life story about the struggle to save a Fin Whale trapped in a Newfoundland lagoon and tortured by local villagers for "recreation." Paperback, 213 pages, $4.50 postpaid.

PROMISED LAND

"Adventures and Encounters in Wild America" by Michael Frome. An inspiring chronicle of forty years of meeting important conservationists in America's wildest places by the foremost environmental journalist in the United States. Mark Dubois, Sig Olsen, William O. Douglas, Martin Litton and others in the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Boundary Waters, Smokies, Maine Woods, and elsewhere. Reviewed in Litha 86. Hardcover, 312 pages, originally priced at $18.95. Signed by Mike Frome. $12 postpaid as a special for EF!ers.

FROG MOUNTAIN BLUES

The latest from Charles Bowden with photographs by Pulitzer Prize winning photographer Jack Dykinga. A stunning discussion in prose and photography of the Catalina Mountains outside of Tucson, and of the interaction between wilderness and the city. Although published by the University of Arizona Press, Bowden's proposals are as radical as Earth First!. ". . . a case history of how America destroys itself." — Gary Snyder. 16 full page color photos, many b&w. Hardcover, 165 pages. $21.50 postpaid.

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STOP CLEARCUTTING

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DOMINANT PARADIGM

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VOTE GREEN

SILENT AGITATORS

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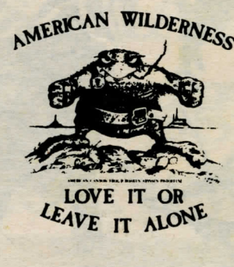
AMERICAN WILDERNESS - LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT ALONE



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The monkeywrencher's shirt. Art by Bill Turk. Silver design on black 100% cotton Beefy-T for night work or black design on white 100% cotton. **$9 postpaid.** Also available in black long sleeved Beefy-T (**$11 postpaid**) or black french-cut 50/50 blend (**$9 postpaid**).

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By popular demand, we now have embroidered patches featuring the green fist and the words "EARTH FIRST!" and "No Compromise." Green and black on a white 3" diameter round patch. **$3.50 postpaid.**

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GLEN CANYON DAMN

THE CRACKING OF GLEN CANYON DAMN

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For you non-militaristic types out there, we now have a non-camouflage cap — the fist and "Earth First!" in black ink on a tan cotton cap with either cloth or mesh back. One size fits all.
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